INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ICESTOCKSPORT Seat in Zürich (CH) founded 1950



## MINUTES

OF THE 62nd ORDINARY CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ICESTOCKSPORT HELD ON 29 FEBRUARY 2016 IN KLOBENSTEIN AM RITTEN, ITALY

# Agenda

- **1.** Opening by the President or his deputy
- 2. Establishing that the Congress has been called correctly
- 3. Establishing the presence of the representatives entitled to vote and any powers of attorney
- **4.** Acceptance of new Member Federations
- 5. Approval of the minutes of the last Congress
- **6.** Activity reports
  - a) by the President or his deputy
  - b) by the Vice-President for Sport
  - c) by the Vice-President for Finance
  - d) by the auditors with a motion to approve the actions of the Vice-President for Finance
  - e) by the Members' representatives
- 7. Discussion of the activity reports
- **8.** Amendments to the Statutes
- 9. Formation of an election committee
- **10.** Approval of the actions of the Presidency
- **11.** By-elections (if necessary); election of an auditor
- 12. Proposed budgets for 2016 and 2017
- 13. Vote on motions by the Presidency, Members and Committees
- 14. Amendments to the legal bases and competition provisions
- **15.** Allocation of IFI events
- **16.** Any other business

## In attendance

- In addition to the delegates of the Member Federations referred to in agenda item 3, the following people are present:
- IFI Presidency: Manfred Schäfer, President (MS), Andrea Spiess, Vice-President for Women's Affairs (AS), Karl Rosenberger, Vice-President for Sport (KR), Peter Longo, Vice-President for International Tasks (PL), Emil Reumer, Vice-President for Finance (ER), Victor M. García-Barrios, Vice-President for Special Tasks (VG)
- In addition, the following people are present: Anton Sorger, Honorary Member of the Presidency, Sepp Hölzl, Honorary Member of the Presidency, Max Moritz, Head of the Technical Examination Office, Helmuth Waldthaler, Chairman of the Sports Court, Dr. Eberhard Anke, Chairman of the IFI Anti-Doping Committee, Eileen Flügel (interpreter for English) and Irina Chishuk (interpreter for Russian).

## **<u>1. Opening by the President or his deputy</u>**

President Manfred Schäfer (MS) opens the 62nd Ordinary Congress of the International Federation Icestocksport (IFI) at 10.04 a.m., welcomes everyone present and wishes the Congress every success.

Mr. Helmut Waldthaler, Vice-President of the Italian Icestock Federation, also welcomes all present and hopes the Congress goes well.

MS thanks Walter Prast, President of the World Championship Organising Committee, for the excellently organised and implemented international competitions of the last weeks. MS also welcomes Mr Toni Sorger and Mr Sepp Hölzl as well as interpreters Eileen Flügel and Irina Chishuk. A minute's silence is held to commemorate the colleagues and friends who have passed away since the last Congress.

## 2. Establishing that the Congress has been called correctly

President Manfred Schäfer (MS) confirms that the IFI Office dispatched the invitations to the Congress together with the agenda to all Member Federation in good time and thus correctly in accordance with the Statutes. The following people were also invited to attend: the Honorary President, the Members of the Presidency, the Chairmen of the Sports and Appeal Court, the auditor and the interpreters Eileen Flügel and Irina Chishuk. He asks if there are any objections to the way in which the Congress was called; none are raised.

MS thus declares that the 62nd Ordinary Congress of the IFI has a quorum under Article 10.6. of the Statutes.

## 3. Establishing the presence of the representatives entitled to vote and any powers of attorney

Peter Longo, Vice-President for International Affairs (PL), establishes that 24 Member Federations with a total of 24 voting rights are present. He reads out the names of the Member Federations present and the voting cards are distributed at the same time. PL announces that 16 votes constitute a two-thirds majority and 13 votes constitute a simple majority.

See next page for the list of delegates taking part in the IFI Congress on 29 February 2016 in Klobenstein, Ritten (Italy).

2         Arge           3         Ausi           3         Ausi           4         Brass           5         Dän           6         Deu           7         Finn           8         Fran           9         Grof           10         Gua           11         India           12         India           13         Israa           14         Italia           15         Japa           16         Kan           17         Ken           18         Kolu           19         Kroa           20         Lich           21         Litaa           22         Luxa           23         Nam           24         Niecc           25         Norra           26         Öste           27         Para           28         Peru           29         Pole           30         Rus           31         Sch           32         Sch	lonesien ael lien pan nada nia lumbien patien cotien	Barry O'Donnell         Sergio Böhm         Steen Bøgsted         Christian Lindner         Maritta Niutanen Salminen         Christoph Chabaud         J. Luis G. Cordero         Mohd Iqbal         Herman Hidajat         Benjamin Strauss         Ronny Horvath         Timothy Ngugi         Juan Antonio Martinez	Milton Bressler Manuela Hallhuber Pia Aglassinger Sergey Romashkin Barbara Kazianka Alois Hernegger Jenifer Mayrl Sarah Njuguna Ana Maria Rugeles	Herbert List Christian Rimsl Marika Hirvonen Franz Albrecht Helmut Mayrl Simon Munayi	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 3 1 3 3 2 2 1 1 4
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Einfache Mehrheit	13
2/3 Mehrheit	16

Anzahl Personen	52
IFI-Personen	7
GESAMT	59

## 4. Acceptance of new Member Federations

Stand 29.02.2016

No new applications have been submitted to IFI. However, MS directed a special welcome to two countries: to France, because it is once again taking part and India, because it is attending for the first time.

#### 5. Approval of the minutes of the last Congress

President Manfred Schäfer (MS) says that the minutes of the 62nd Congress were sent to all the National Federations on time. He also notes that no objections have been received. Thus, the Congress Minutes of the 62nd Congress are unanimously approved (without any dissenting votes).

## 6. Activity reports

## 6a) by the President or his deputy

President Manfred Schäfer (MS) states that his report has been distributed in writing and supplements it as follows: In the context of IFI's application to the IOC, the participation of an excellent group of young Icestock athletes in the Youth Olympiad 2016 in Lillehammer was a great success. Our sport was received and there was great interest in trying it out. MS also explains that the IOC has had IFI's application for recognition since 2013 and that the IOC has now surprisingly said that we have to reapply (but we had already done so!) The IFI Presidency has already written back and asked them to tell us what is still required.

MS also explains that he will continue to exercise the function of IFI President at least until 2018. However, a group of Members of the IFI countries is seeking someone to succeed him. If he does not stand as a candidate for 4 years next time, there is to be a kind of interim solution whereby the next President is to be introduced to the activities and responsibilities. No points are raised in response to his request for commentaries or suggestions on his report.

## **6b) by the Vice-President for Sport**

Karl Rosenberger, Vice-President for Sport (KR), says that his report has been distributed in writing and requests commentaries or questions. There are no questions from those present.

## 6c) by the Vice-President for Finance

Emil Reumer (ER), Vice-President for Finance, announces the percentage shares of the icestock licence emblems sold by each manufacturer.

The accounts for business years 2014 and 2015 were enclosed in writing together with the invitation to the Congress. ER provided the following explanations:

- 2014 was (from ER's point of view) a rather good year. The increases in youth grants approved by the Congress and organising committee grants for IFI competitions have resulted in a huge increase in expenditures for item 13, "IFI competitions", of course. Doping tests and the procurement of the required medals involved great costs. Obligatory participation, e.g. in the SportAccord Convention and General Assembly, are further significant expenditure items. On the other hand, there has been a positive development in sales of licence emblems and rulebooks. The (full) grant from the German Federal Ministry of the Interior was very welcome.
- For 2015, one should not be misled by the indicated profit of € 63,923.06. This contains a one-off grant (earmarked for a specific purpose) from SportAccord of € 50,000.00. This grant has already been used, partly for financing the Youth GP in 2015 and to finance the Youth Olympiad 2016 in Lillehammer, Norway.

When ER asks if there are any questions, no further points are raised on the annual accounts.

## 6d) by the auditor with a motion to approve the actions of the Vice-President for Finance

Ms. Karin Schmidt and Mr Stefan Unger carried out the cash audits for 2014 / 2015. The audit for 2014 was carried out in Frankfurt am Main and for 2015 it was carried out in Klobenstein. Random checks of all the evidence were carried out. All the balances matched the evidence. The bookkeeping was done in a clear, uncluttered way. Ms. Karin Schmidt put forward the motion to approve the actions of the Vice-President for Finance.

The actions of the Vice-President for Finance are approved unanimously, with no dissenting votes.

## 6e) by the Members' representatives

President Manfred Schäfer says that written reports by Members' representatives within the meaning of the IFI Statutes have been submitted. Only a few of these were submitted on time, others a short time ago in Ritten. MS requests that reports be submitted on time by the deadline.

## 7. Discussion of the activity reports

President Manfred Schäfer requests comments on the individual activity reports, there are none. There are also no questions to the Presidency.

## 8. Amendments to the Statutes

No applications have been made for amendments to the Statutes and since no urgent motions are possible, discussion moves on to the next agenda item.

## 9. Formation of an election committee

MS asks to be allowed to manage the elections himself. There are no dissenting votes.

## 10. Approval of the actions of the Presidency

The actions of the Presidency are given unanimous approval (without any dissenting votes).

## 11. By-elections: Presidency, Technical Committee, Federation Courts, 1<sup>st</sup> auditor

## Members of the Technical Committee

CAN wishes to nominate someone. The written declaration of consent is lacking. AUT wishes to nominate Klaus Pfleger and hands over the relevant document. MS asks for the votes to be cast. Mr Pfleger is elected for the period until 2018 with one dissenting vote.

## Auditor

Nomination of Manuela Hallhuber (GER) has been submitted in writing. Elected without any dissenting votes.

## Athletes' Spokesperson

Michael Brandtner was chosen last time. MS asks for the votes to be cast. Mr Brandtner remains the Athletes' Spokesperson, with no dissenting votes.

## 12. Budget proposals for 2016 and 2017

Emil Reumer (ER), Vice-President for Finance, explains the budget proposals for 2016 and 2017, which have been submitted in writing. He comments on and explains all the income and expenditure items. He also points out that the attempt has been made to keep the proposals as realistic as possible.

MS puts the budget proposal for 2016 to the vote: accepted without any dissenting votes. MS puts the budget proposal for 2017 to the vote: accepted without any dissenting votes.

## **13.** Vote on motions by the Presidency, Members and Committees

- Motion 2 (LUX), Annex 7:
  - The delegate from LUX explains. MS comments that this would be a double grant and that IFI is not in a position to carry this out. A decision will be taken on a special grant applied for in accordance with the budgetary situation; we are making efforts to ensure that the annual financial statement and budget proposal are in order. NAM wants to apply for a grant, but withdraws this application because the matter in hand is Congress grants, not travel grants. GUA and CAN support LUX's motion. MS says that only complicates things and regrets the mood, because it sounds as if participation was dependent on a grant.
  - Vote on motion: 6 votes in favour, 18 votes against.
- Motion 3 (FIN):
  - The Finnish delegate explains. MS says that the Congress would have taken place between the Youth and Juniors European Championships/World Championships and the Women's and Men's World Championships if the Youth Olympiad had not included Icestocksport. That is why it was planned in this way. Otherwise, the IFI Presidency members would not have been able to attend all the events. In Amstetten, the plan is that the Youth and Juniors Championships will be followed by the Congress and the World Championships. This plan would fulfil the motion.
  - FIN withdraws the motion.
- Motion 4 (Technical Committee), Annex 1:
  - KR explains that within the European Cup, there should be an IFI Trophy for the small countries, i.e. a separate competition for the small countries.
  - $\circ$  Vote on the motion:
    - The motion is passed with no dissenting votes.
- Motion 5 (GER), Annex 3:
  - GER explains the motion. ITA speaks in support of the motion in principle, but that it has concerns.
  - Vote on the motion:
    - The motion is passed unanimously.
- Motion 6 (Technical Committee), Annex 10:
  - KR explains the proposed concept of the choice of opening.
  - Vote on the motion:
    - The motion is passed with one dissenting vote.
- Motion 7 German Icestock Federation (DESV) (via Technical Committee), Annex 11:
  - KR explains the content of the motion and points out that it concerns individual and team target competitions.
  - DAN has a problem because they have only 3 players. Thus, they would be unable to find a return player, so what should they do? MS: the organisation team is normally willing to find/choose a player for this.
  - Vote on the motion:
    - The motion is rejected by (5 votes in favour and) 19 dissenting votes.
- Motion 8 (Technical Committee), Annex 1:
  - $\circ~$  KR: the aim is to amend the wording to make it easier to understand.
  - Vote on the motion
    - The motion is passed unanimously.
- Motion 9 (Technical Committee), Annex 1:
  - o KR explains.
  - Vote on the motion
    - The motion is passed unanimously.

- Motion 10 (Technical Committee), Annex 5:
  - o KR explains.
  - Vote on the motion
    - The motion is passed by a majority with one dissenting vote.
- Motions 11 and 12 (GER):
  - o GER explains that the Technical Committee has rejected the motion.
  - Vote on the motion
    - The motion is rejected by (5 votes in favour and) 19 dissenting votes.
- Motion 13 (GER), Annex 5:
  - $\circ$  GER withdraws the motion.
- Motion 14 (AUT):
  - AUT explains that spectators are not familiar with the situation and that it is thus impossible to understand. It should be simpler, e.g. two (or more) turns.
  - Athletes' Spokesperson: it should definitely be simpler and easier to understand for spectators when the winner is determined "in the course of the game".
  - Congress delegates present various possible solutions:
    - MS: try to hit the puck, then measure.
    - Athletes' Spokesperson: Measure distance to the puck, with points, like in the target game.
    - AUT: measure all four shots to the rings to determine the winner.
    - Max Moritz: all 4 shoot to the puck, then the distance in centimetres is measured and added up, and the winner is determined.
    - Athletes' Spokesperson: The problem could be that measuring the centimetres is not comprehensible for spectators.
    - AUS: Objection, because the target competition and team competition are not the same. MS argues that the objective is the same in both competitions.
  - MS: All players of the two teams shoot at the puck (rings) and the number of points (rings) is counted. The details will be determined by the Technical Committee.
    - Subsequent comments by KR: The following was agreed and decided upon:
      - If games end in a draw, each of the four players in turn has one attempt to shoot a stock into the delineated middle target rings (by analogy with International Icestock Rule 403). The total number of points achieved by all four players of a team decides on the winner. If both teams have the same number of points, just one player from each team (in freely selectable order, one after the other) continues to play until the winner is established.
      - The team that led in the previous round has the choice of playing the opening shots throughout the final (= lower starting number).
    - MS's suggestion is accepted by a majority with 3 dissenting votes.
- Motion 15 (ITA):
  - o ITA withdraws the motion.
- Motion 16 (ITA):
  - The issue is passed on to the Technical Committee.
- Motion 17 (AUT):
  - Vote on the urgency of the motion: 10 votes in favour: the motion is not urgent.
- Motion 18 (BRA):
  - Vote on the urgency of the motion: unanimously in favour.
  - BRA: explains the situation. GER: basically good but possibly less clear for spectators. AUT is in favour, saying that it also makes sense for youth games. GUA is in favour of 12 players. AUT requests the extension of the motion to apply to all IFI competitions.
  - o BRA extends the motion: for all IFI competitions.
  - Vote on the amended (extended) motion:

• The motion is passed by a majority with one dissenting vote.

## 14. Amendments to the legal bases and the competition provisions

*N.B.: Motions had been submitted in writing.* 

## **15. Award of IFI events**

- Motions 19 and 20 (AUT):
  - MS welcomes the motion. The World Championship is to take place in Amstetten (AUT) from 21 February to 4 March 2108.
  - Vote on the motion
    - The motion is passed unanimously.
- Urgent motion (BRA):
  - The urgency of the motion is confirmed. The America Cup is to take place in Santa Cruz do Sul, Brazil (in July).
  - o Vote:
    - The motion is passed unanimously.
- Urgent motion (ITA):
  - The urgency of the motion is confirmed by more than 16 votes. Application for the IFI referees seminar 2018 in the Bressanone (Brixen) area.
  - o Vote:
    - Motion is passed unanimously.
- Urgent motion (NAM):
  - o NAM explains: The Africa Cup 2018 is to take place in Namibia.
  - The urgency of the motion is confirmed by more than 16 votes.
  - o Vote:
    - The motion is passed by a majority with one dissenting vote.
- Urgent motion (BLR):
  - o BLR makes a request to hold the European Championships 2019 in Grodno, BLR.
  - The urgency is confirmed by more than 16 votes.
  - o Vote:
    - The motion is passed by a majority with one dissenting vote.

To conclude agenda item 15, MS says that a delegation from Cologne paid a visit to Ritten to look at the organisation/implementation of a World Championship. Thus, it is possible that the World Championship 2020 may be held in Cologne.

## 16. Any other business

FIN: Why is there no travel grant for participants in the distance competition? MS: Unfortunately, the IFI has no budget earmarked for this.

GUA: Are there plans to enable smartphone access news on the IFI website? VG: Yes. This will be implemented in the first quarter of 2016.

GER asks whether gifts have to be given to the opponent in competitions of young players. It would be good if the number of gifts was not too great.

FRA wishes to present the new situation of the French Federation. As the President of a figure-skating club, the French delegate was looking for other interesting ice-rink sports. That is how they discovered Icestocksport. They decided to get involved and will do everything they can to ensure the development of Icestocksport in Avignon. There is great motivation. FRA issues an invitation to everyone attending the Congress to come to a tournament in Avignon (from 14 to 15 May 2016).

IND: IND expresses thanks and admiration for the sporting events in Ritten (Finals & Congress). The Indian President has many contacts in Asia and will try to spread the sport there. The Asian Winter Games would also be a good opportunity to promote Icestocksport's efforts to gain Olympic recognition.

MS expresses his cordial thanks and would welcome the Indian President beginning by spreading the sport within India.

NAM is glad that Ukraine is taking part (considering the situation within the country).

MS requests that Member Federations report to the highest sports representations in their countries in order to gain official representation for Icestocksport in all Member countries. This is still a barrier to Olympic recognition and could cause problems if and when the time comes. This task is very important.

PL notes that the development of youth work in BLR, POL, LIT, etc. is most admirable and expresses his cordial thanks to these countries on behalf of the IFI. He also requests all the other countries to do even more youth work than they have done to date.

CAN: It would be a good idea to increase member contributions in small steps and this should be done (e.g. 5 or 10 euro to start with). The Canadian President asks the IFI Presidency to think about it. MS agrees that it has to be discussed and expresses his thanks for this comment.

Since there are no more comments, MS thanks delegates for taking part and for the good atmosphere at the Congress. He wishes everyone present all the best for the future and a safe journey home.

MS closes the 62<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Congress of the der INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ICESTOCKSPORT at 12:40 p.m. with a friendly good-bye and *Auf Wiedersehen*.

Klobenstein, Italy, 29 February 2016

President Manfred Schäfer

Vice-President for Special Tasks Victor M. García-Barrios