



IWAS
Aylesbury College
Oxford Road
Aylesbury
Bucks
HP21 8PD
UK
T: +44 (0)1296 780 212
E: info@iwasf.com

Minutes of the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Sport Assembly

Hotel Novotel Est, Paris

25th October 2015

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

1.0 Welcome & Opening

Introduction of IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee (IW FEC) in attendance.

IW FEC: **Chairman:** Jakub Nowicki, (JN) **Vice Chairman:** Pal Szekeres, (PS)

Secretary General: Udo Ziegler, (UZ) **Committee member:** Nelson Tai. (NT)

IWAS CEO: Charmaine Hooper. (CH)

1.1 Opening Address by IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Chairman.

1.1b The Chairman asked for a one minute of silence to be observed in honour of Vittorio Loi. The Chairman paid tribute to Vittorio Loi, and talked about his life and fencing accomplishments.

1.2 Roll call of Member Nations Present.

The Secretary General announced that there are 39 members, 36 of which are in good standing at the date of the Sport Assembly, the quorum would need to be 19 members (50% + 1) He then carried out a roll call of nations.

17 members present – (see roll call)

The Chairman stated that the previous minutes cannot be adopted as we do not yet have a quorum. The chairman asked if we could proceed to the Chairman's report. Nations agreed.

3.1 Chairman's Report

Discussion	<p>Report by IWAS wheelchair Fencing Chairman Jakub Nowicki (JN)</p> <p>The Chairman read through his report(see attached) He stressed the importance of increasing the number of wheelchair fencing nations, the development of more Sabre Women and cat c competitions and long term planning of the competition calendar.</p> <p>It was suggested that to improve communications any problems should be sent to Hilary Sahota via Head</p>
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	Office.
Decision(s)	JN moved to have the report accepted. Motion approved.
Action(s)	Future training courses for referees to be proposed. IWF EC to look into 2 to 4-year forecasting for competition calendar.

UZ announced that a quorum was now present – 20 nations now present.
A second roll call was taken. The adoption of the agenda and all other business could now proceed.

4. Motions received

HKG motion has been withdrawn.

JN gave comments regarding this motion.

The motion will be looked into by the respective commission, it cannot be changed before Rio. This decision can be raised at the next assembly.

1.3 Adoption of Agenda

Discussion	JN confirmed the agenda and asked if there was anything that should be added? Nothing to be added.
Decision	Moved by ? motion approved unanimously.
Action	

2.0 Minutes of the Previous Wheelchair Fencing Assembly

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Sport Assembly held in Stadskanaal, Netherlands 2013.

Discussion	To approve the minutes of the previous sport Assembly. No questions of amendments.
Decision	To approve the minutes as a true record Moved by? One abstention. Motion approved, Minutes accepted.
Action	

2.2 Matters Arising

Discussion	None – Item passed
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Decision	
Action	

3.2 Finances for the period of 2014 to July 2015 and

3.3 Budget for 2016

Discussion	<p>Report on the finance for IWF for 2014 to July 2015 and the budgeting for 2016.</p> <p>CH addressed the members. Finances were distributed to the nations. Any questions were asked for. More transparency had been previously requested so there is now a clear improvement in the presentation of finances. Income and expenditure explained.</p> <p>The budget was explained. Financial reports are on the website.</p> <p>Austria enquired as to the use of the IPC grant money.</p>
Decision	<p>JN moved for the reports to be accepted.</p> <p>Motion approved unanimously.</p>
Action	<p>HQ to provide nations with a copy of the IPC Grant Project report.</p>

4. Motions received from member nations and IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee.

Motion 4.1

Discussion	<p>Motion 4.1 from the IW FEC</p> <p>For working more efficient in the IWF commissions and to reduce the work load for all IWF EC members the IWF EC formulates the following motion:</p> <p>IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Bylaw 7.7.2 should be amended to read:</p> <p>"Each commission will comprise of a minimum of three persons appointed by the IW FEC from amongst candidates of different zones who are experts in the Commission's theme. The commission will be headed by a Chairman chosen by the IW FEC, but does not necessarily have to be a current member of the IW FEC."</p> <p>Motion rational;</p> <p>Interested and motivated persons with enough experience in wheelchair fencing and the relevant commission topic can be chosen by the IWF EC to become head of an IWF commission. They do not</p>
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	<p>necessarily have to be an IWF EC member already.</p> <p>These persons have at least to be in the position of a commission member already (or be nominated by their national federation to become a commission member). The head of commissions (if they are no IWF EC member already) have to report to one regular member of the IWF EC (to be chosen by the IWF EC) who represents the commission within the IWF EC."</p>
Decision	<p>Motion moved for approval. Motion approved unanimously.</p>
Action	

Motion 4.2

Discussion	<p>4.2 Motion: To amend Technical rule, part 4 A Sabre fencing Distance.</p> <p>“To adopt the Foil fencing distance (Book 1 – technical rules, Part 2. Foil A) for use in sabre fencing”</p> <p>Motion Rationale: The current sabre distance between the two fencers has a disadvantage to the fencer with the shorter arm, in not being able to attack the opponents' valid scoring area with the existing measure position and thereby causing an unfair advantage. By using the Foil fencing measure of distance the fencer with the short arm is able to reach the opponents' for scoring.</p>
Decisions	<p>Hong Kong has withdrawn the motion. JN explained that the motion will be looked into by the appropriate commissions. The rules regarding this cannot be changed before Rio 2016 and research need to go into looking into the rule change. The motion can be raised at the next Sport Assembly.</p>
Actions	<p>Hong Kong withdrew the motion. Commissions are to look at the motion and arrange for investigation to be done.</p>

5. Rio 2016 Paralympic Games

5.1 Clarification of the qualification system for Rio 2016.

Discussion	<p>UZ explained the Rio qualification using a power point presentation. He explained which World Cups, World Championships and Zonal Championships were included into the qualification. Detail was given to the qualification slots with a simulation of names to illustrate the situation.</p> <p>Austria asked how new small nations will get into the Paralympics? UZ explained that the Paralympics IPC will only take high ranking competitors. This is something that will have to be worked on in the future with the IPC. CH and UZ reiterated that this is a simulation only, and the names will change.</p> <p>Team places were discussed – only 3 fencers are allowed, no reserve. Question from Austria to what happens in the final if there is an injury – the answer will be checked but they will probably get the silver medal.</p> <p>GBR asked if the power point can be sent to all nations with the names removed. Action : send out to nations.</p>
Decisions	
Action	HQ to forward a simulation with names removed.

6. calendar 2016 to 2020

Discussion	<p>JN explained the calendar for 2016. A discussion as to where and when the 2017 World Championships is currently taking place. IWAS would like to have this alongside able bodied fencing competitions, however this may not be possible. The FIE has had a meeting with the organisers to see if the competition can take place. JN has spoken to Korea and other nations are invited to bid for the World Championships. IWAS WF will try to keep a minimum of 4-5 World cups per year. Having joint FIE-IWAS WF Championships are one of the current aims.</p>
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	<p>Germany – when will the date be fixed for 2017 World champs. JN – this may be dependant upon the FIE so that organisers can begin to look into it. This will be looked into by the committee.</p> <p>Netherlands – would like all nations to send their fencers to their competition. This ill help development towards increasing nations in the Paralympics.</p> <p>JN – we will develop ranking for U17 and U23 fencers.</p>
Decisions	
Action	<p>IWFEC to look into 2017 World Championships – joint with the FIE.</p> <p>IWFEC to look into developing ranking for the U17 and U23 fencers.</p>

7. Any other Business

Discussion	<p>JN asked for any other business.</p> <p>CH – informed the nations that we will be moving offices during the first week of November and apologised for any disruption.</p>
Decisions	
Action	HQ to send a reminder out to nations of our move.

8. closing remarks from the Chairman

JN thanked the nations for their time and consideration.
The Meeting was officially closed.