



DRAFT MINUTES (040514)
General Assembly of European National Rowing Federations
Belgrade, Serbia
Saturday, 31 May 2014
16:30 hrs

1. Opening of the session.

The Chair of the European Rowing Management Board ("ERMB"), Ryszard Stadniuk (POL), opened the 2014 General Assembly and introduced the members of the board: Dag Danzglock (GER), Nebojsa Jevremovich (SRB), Eva Szanto (HUN), Algirdas Raslanas (LTU), Patrick Rombaut (BEL) and Roland Weill (FRA).

Mr. Stadniuk thanked the Belgrade organisers for their excellent organisation of the regatta and of the general assembly. He continued with his thanks to the Seville Organising Committee for the organisation of the very successful 2013 European Rowing Championships and to the Belgian Federation for the organisation of the fourth European Junior Championships two weeks earlier in Hazewinkel.

2. Identification of the delegates and confirmation of their authority.

The Secretary of the Board, Eva Szanto, made a roll call. There were 30 member federations represented, each with one vote. A majority was thus 16 votes if all participated in the voting.

3. Appointment of scrutineers for the period of the Meeting.

The Chair asked and received approval to nominate the following delegates as scrutineers:

Norbert Lambing (AUT)
Henning Bay Nielsen (DEN)

4. Approval of the Minutes from the 2013 General Assembly in Seville

The Chair asked for any comments on the minutes from the 2013 General Assembly. There were no comments or questions therefore he considered that the minutes were approved.

5. 2013 Report of the European Rowing Management Board

The Chair commented on the ERMB report on their activities for 2013 and the beginning of 2014. The report was included with the agenda papers.

He commented on the successful Junior Championship regatta the previous weekend in Hazewinkel. He again thanked the Belgian Rowing Federation for their excellent organisation. There were no further questions.

6. Update on preparations for future Championships

a. 2015 European Rowing Championships in Poznan

The Deputy Mayor of Poznan, Dariusz Jaworski, gave an update on the progress of preparations for the 2015 event. All was reportedly going well.

b. 2015 European Rowing Junior Championships in Racice

Dusan Machacek of the Czech Rowing Federation gave a report on the progress of preparations for the 2015 Junior event.

7. Attribution of the venue for the 2016 European Rowing Championships

The Brandenburg Organising Committee led by Mayor Dietlind Tiemann presented information on the bid of Brandenburg to host the 2016 European Rowing Championships. The ERMB confirmed that the bid met all standards requested for championship bids and recommended approval by the delegates. The delegates expressed their satisfaction with applause and the 2016 championships were attributed to Brandenburg, Germany.

8. Attribution of the venue for the 2016 European Rowing Junior Championships

Representatives of the Belarus Rowing Federation presented the Brest international regatta course as their proposed venue for this event and representatives of the Lithuanian Rowing Federation presented the international regatta course in Trakai as their proposed venue. The ERMB confirmed that both bids met all standards requested for this event and asked for a vote. The delegates voted 21 in favour of Trakai and 9 for Brest, therefore the 2016 Junior Championships were attributed to Trakai, Lithuania.

9. European Ergometer Championships 2015

A report was made to the assembly on the preparations for this event to take place in Szczecin, Poland, in early 2015.

10. Election of one position on the European Rowing Management Board

The management board position held by Nebojsa Jevremovich was due for election; Mr. Jevremovich was re-nominated by the Serbian Rowing Federation for a further four year term.

The delegates confirmed their appreciation for Nebojsa by acclamation and he was considered re-elected for a four year term ending in 2018.

11. Discussion on the International Calendar for 2017 and update on European Games/ European Sports Championships

A brief report was presented on the idea to combine the different continental championships or major continental events so that they take place at the same time as the European Championships; and also to consider the results as points, similar to the first regatta of the World Rowing Cup. This idea is still in the brainstorming stage.

Plans for the European Sports Championships, an innovation in seeking to combine the European Championships from different sports in the same two week time period, continue to develop for 2018: rowing has been selected as one of the core sports along with athletics, swimming, cycling and

triathlon; the first event in 2018 would take place at the end of July or beginning of August. This concept has big support from the European Broadcasting Union as a sustainable initiative of these sports federations. The delegates continued to express their interest in this concept and the great potential it has to better promote the European Rowing Championships. There were no further updates regarding the situation with the 2019 European Games.

12. FISA Strategic Plan / European Rowing Strategic Plan

FISA President Jean-Christophe Rolland and Executive Director Matt Smith presented the latest issues in the Olympic movement and how they impact rowing as well as European Rowing. Rolland reported on the IOC Agenda 2020 project which was launched in Sochi at the Winter Olympic Games and ends in early December at an extraordinary session of the IOC in Monaco. He warned the delegates that change is coming fast in the Olympic Movement and in the world of sport. He suggested that rowing needs to carefully consider all issues and drive change rather than have change overtake rowing.

13. Any other business

a. European Rowing Ergometer Championships

Dag Danzglock of the ERMB reported to the delegates on progress to create a European Rowing Ergometer Championships. The ERMB staged the first such event in February 2013 in Essen, Germany; the second event took place in Copenhagen, Denmark in January 2014.

b. European Rowing Under 23 Championships

The ROU federation proposed that a new championship event for Under 23 rowers should be created. The GER federation presented a slightly different proposal for such an event. The delegates were split between June and September for the event as well as on other issues. It was agreed that a questionnaire would go to the national federations covering points such as: date, number of events and scope of the event. The results of the survey will be reported to the national federations and an extraordinary meeting will take place in Amsterdam at the World Championships to resolve the situation.

c. European Rowing University Championships

Information was provided on two interesting European University events: the European University Games will take place in Rotterdam in July 2014 and will include rowing; another event is scheduled in Hannover, Germany in July 2015.

d. Possible ERASMUS+ projects

Two national federations are pursuing grants from the European Union for rowing: Lithuanian Federation for Events and the Italian Federation for Para-Rowing.

e. Possible European Club Eights event

The GER federation reported on a new event for Club eights to take place in September in Berlin.

f. Attribution of Championships

The Swiss Federation proposed a longer time period for the attribution of championships above the current two year attribution period. It was agreed that this question would also be part of a survey for a final decision in Amsterdam.

The General Assembly ended at 19:30 hrs.

For the European Rowing Management Board:

Ryszard Stadniuk
Chair

Eva Szanto
Secretary