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REPORT OF THE WDSF SPORTS DIRECTOR

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear WDSF Member Bodies,

On behalf of WDSF and as the WDSF Sports Director, I would firstly like to thank the WDSF Presidium, the WDSF Managing Committee and all WDSF Member Bodies for their continuous support and good collaboration during the last twelve months.

The work as WDSF Sports Director has increased tremendously for all the new projects, presentations, competitions, meetings with national member bodies and National Olympic Committees, which have been promoted and enforced by the WDSF Sports Commission.

This Sports Commission has a new internal structure, which I will explain later on. But now, I want thank sincerely to the Sports Commissioners for their help, support and hard work: Juris Arajs, Michael Eichert and Wolfgang Eliasch. Thank you very much.

During this past year, I have traveled worldwide not only on competition issues but also on the development and improvement on a higher level, which includes also new projects like the World Artistic Games, the WDSF DanceSport Games and the World Games.

I offer my special thanks to our WDSF President Carlos Freitag, for his leadership and guidance. I'm so proud to work with him on our developing projects and his clear vision of what is best for WDSF's and DanceSports future.

I also give special thanks to our Secretary, Txus Pedraza.

WDSF Sports Director - Marco Sietas · C. Comte Vilardaga 135-137 Bjos 3
08980 Sant Feliu de Llobregat · SPAIN
TEL: +34 617 314 480 · FAX: +34 93 583 11 04 · E-Mail: marcosietas@WDSFspain.com
www.worlddancesport.org



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WORLD OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The so called World Open Championships have had a tremendous success in the Senior II and III age groups.

The implementation of the under 21 World Open Championships, approved by the WDSF Member Bodies in the 2011 AGM, have also been a success. The under 21 World Open Championship Latin was held in Denmark in April, and the feedback received from the athletes participating in this event was very positive.

The next under 21 World Open Championship Standard will be held in Mons (Belgium) in October.

We will continue this project of WDSF Open Championships next year.

IEC

As WDSF Sports Director, I have attended all WDSF Major Championships and Grand Slams. In those where IEC took care of the broadcasting of the event, I worked closely with them contributing with all my experience, in order to have outstanding DanceSport TV programs.

A very close relationship has been achieved and I look forward to maintain this positive collaboration in the future, for the best interests of our Sport.

BIDDING PROCEDURE:

As you certainly know all Bidding application forms are always visible at our WDSF website.



Nevertheless, we have sent reminders regularly from the WDSF office, in order that our members can apply for WDSF Championships/Cups, several years in advance. This improves the process itself.

At this moment, we are asking for bids for the years 2015-2016.

ATHLETES COMMISSION:

During 2011 and 2012, I was invited to attend two meetings of the WDSF Athletes Commission.

It is important that all athletes are represented in their Commission, so we started an Election process in different WDSF World Championships that gave our athletes the opportunity to elect their representatives democratically.

It is important that the WDSF Athletes Commission is represented in all 5 continents.

GRAND SLAM SERIES 2013-2017:

Detailed information about Grand Slams 2013-2017 can be found in our WDSF 1st Vice-President report.

It is important in addition to committing by 5 years period, that the organizers will hold these events on fixed dates and at the same venue every year.

The WDSF Grand Slams must have a common branding and presentation which identifies them with the first class product it is. This also offers higher possibilities for TV coverage worldwide.

These events are the most important competitions not only on the Prize money scale but also for the World Ranking List.



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REGULATIONS FOR WORLD RANKING TOURNAMENTS

In January 2012, as approved at the 2011 AGM, a new regulation for the WDSF World Ranking Tournaments was successfully established.

We have received many positive comments from organizers and athletes in regards to the relaunched concept of World Opens.

The intention of the World Open was to encourage our athletes to competitions, offering them very good conditions, Prize Money and a higher Ranking points schedule. With these two improvements, the response of the athletes and also the organizers has been outstanding.

We are constantly receiving applications from our members to upgrade their WDSF International Open events to WDSF World Opens, respecting the general conditions required to organize a World Open event.

WDSF COMPETITION RULEBOOK

At the 2011 AGM, it was requested by WDSF Member Bodies to present a well structured and unified Competition Rulebook.

The WDSF Sports Commission has been working very hard in order to be able to present to all of you the initial results of this major endeavor in time for our 2012 AGM, as promised.

A presentation will be made in our 2012 WDSF Forum on Saturday.

We will of course continue to develop and improve the Competition Rule book over time.



WDSF TECHNIQUE BOOKS

With Fabio Bosco, as leader of a PD athletes team, and with the supervision of Natasa Ambroz and myself, WDSF Technique Books are in preparation, and will also be presented at the 2012 AGM.

A detailed information is provided in Mrs. Ambroz's Report.

WDSF CONGRESSES AND WORKSHOPS:

I would like to remind once again that, as per our Rules and Regulations, it is mandatory for WDSF Adjudicators to attend an Adjudicators Congress every two years in order to renew their licenses.

Our WDSF Member Bodies are organizing many WDSF Congresses worldwide, so it is easy for our licensed adjudicators to renew their status.

Even like this, we still have some WDSF Adjudicators who are not used to maintain their continuing professional development obligations in order to renew their licenses. As a result, these Adjudicators have an inactive status until they proceed and attend a Congress. Strict control has been implemented.

The structure of the different congresses is built up around one main point, that it is developed by the different lecturers.

The WDSF Sports Commission is in charge of the content of the Congresses.

Regarding WDSF Academy Workshops, as mentioned by our Education Director Natasa Ambroz, several subjects have been worked out including: Sports Medicine, Anti-Doping, Psychology, Ethics, different kinds of movement and dancing, Kinetics, etc.



NEW WDSF ADJUDICATION SYSTEM:

We are continuing to work on the development of our new Adjudication System.

Some points must be improved in order that our system can be easily implemented in all WDSF Championships, and not only in Grand Slams.

The software and hardware have been defined by the Sports Commission with the important help from Olav Groehn, and are the property of WDSF.

CERTIFICATION OF PDA'S SYSTEMS

The WDSF Sports Commission, together with Olav Groehn, has worked on the requirements for WDSF certification of scrutineering software.

All scrutineering programs used in WDSF events must comply with these requirements by January 2013.

RLS SYSTEM:

The project regarding the establishment and use of ID Cards which started in Dec 2011 is nearly finalized. Michael Eichert was responsible for formulating the requirements and procedures. The procedures will require each individual athlete to update their personal data through their National Administrator (NA) on the WDSF Registration and Licensing System (RLS). Eventually all athletes will be required to present their WDSF ID cards when registering for events. The system will be presented during the 2012 AGM.

WORLD GAMES 2013:

During the month of July I'm traveling to Colombia, to inspect and coordinate a WDSF Open competition in the same place where the World Games will be held in our discipline. Several meetings with the organizers of



the World Games have been necessary and we still have some meetings planned for the near future.

As you know, in the 2013 World Games, Salsa will be included as one of the disciplines in the DanceSport competitions. The Competition Rules and Regulations for Salsa have been established for this event by the WDSF Sports Commission.

The World Games will take place from July 25 till August 4, 2013.

DanceSport competitions will be held on July 27 & 28, 2013.

WORLD ARTISTIC GAMES – WDSF DANCESPORT GAMES :

Parameters for conducting DanceSport in the above two inaugural events have been accepted, and we look forward to these two events to be scheduled in 2013.

Further information is also included in our President's Report.

2011 FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN CHINA:

For the first time ever in 2011, the Standard and Latin Freestyle Championships were conducted with great success on September 24th in Beijing (China).

In order to work, develop and improve the Rules of this discipline, a Commission was created and had the first meeting during the month of December 2011.

New Competition Rules for Freestyle will be presented in our AGM 2012, under the name of Showdance, that it is the proposed new name for this discipline.



CHAIRMAN

Unfortunately, not all WDSF Chairmen are acting in the same way so decisions are sometimes different.

Of course, the pressure and responsibilities faced by our chairmen are quite big: TV, Organizers, Athletes, etc.

I want to remind, once again, that we have to strictly follow our Rules and Regulations, even if a broadcaster or an organizer asks for a different presentation.

The WDSF Sports Commission is also working on a Handbook for Chairman which will be presented very soon to our Member Bodies and Chairmen.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Marco Sietas

WDSF Sports Director