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REPORT OF THE WDSF SPORTS DIRECTOR

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear WDSF Member Bodies,

First of all, I would like to thank all the WDSF Presidium Members and all WDSF Member Bodies for their continuous support to my work and the fantastic collaboration during this past year.

The work as WDSF Sports Director has changed quite a lot during the last year, especially for all the new projects including the World Games and the WDSF World DanceSport Games.

During the whole year meetings have been held with many member bodies when I have visited them, as well as the Sports Commission had several and very important Commission Meetings in order to ensure that the Sport inside our system is going the correct way and of course, with the tremendous future for the next years.

I want to thank sincerely all the Sports Commissioners for their help, support and hard work: Juris Arajš, Michael Eichert and Wolfgang Eliasch. Thank you very much.

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 Pedrazo, and the new members of our WDSF Staff, German Sal and Lidia Sanchez.



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WDSF WORLD DANCESPORT GAMES

Since the signature of the contract by our President on September 2012, I have traveled four times to Kaohsiung, to control the progress of the different items that will make these Games an outstanding success.

During these meetings I had the possibility to visit and choose the official hotels and ask for all necessary arrangements that will ensure that all our athletes will have the best accommodation for their needs.

All athletes/officials arriving to Taipei or Kaohsiung will receive all necessary information and help through the different hospitality desks that will be located at the two official airports, high speed train stations in Taipei and Kaohsiung, as well as in the Official Hotels.

During my different visits to the sport dome and other locations where the workshops will be held during the Games, I could fix all matters in relation to the Dance floor, warm-up area, commercial tents and stands, the stage, location of stage and athletes/officials, as well as the visit to all rooms beside the dome. The Sport dome is very well equipped by screens, sound system and lightening.

Of course, one of the very important matters was the TV broadcasting, communication, media and press, and the needs to have well equipped media center, good technical equipment as well we have spoken about the website, publicity, broadcasting of the events, press releases and conferences.

I'm sure you have seen all the campaign through our website. Let me thank very much our WDSF Communication Director, Roland Hilfiker for his help and professionalism.



For your information, you can find all information about WDSF World DanceSport Games at our website:

http://www.worlddancesport.org/About/DanceSport_Games

<http://2013wdsg.tw>

WORLD GAMES

I have visited three times Cali (Colombia) during the last year and I have seen that the location where our Sport event will be held is a unique place. The bullfighting Arena, with a capacity of 17'000. - people, will host our DanceSport competitions, with three disciplines.

In this 2013 edition, apart from Standard and Latin dances, for the first time ever we will have Salsa as a medal Sport for the World Games program.

The preparation for these Games is running very good and I can assure that this will be a great MultiSport event.

JUDGING SYSTEM 2.0

As you may remember, on March 2013, we published a video with all details concerning the Judging System 2.0. You can still find this video at the following link:

http://www.worlddancesport.org/Media/Gallery/View/The_Judging_System_2.0_WDSF_Sports_Department-8d6a6be7-49af-452b-955c-a17000b95625

The judging system 2.0 is an amazing step forward in the right direction in order to ensure that the transparency and objectivity in our Sport will improve tremendously.

This reviewed version meets all the goals for a better understanding of judging by IOC, media and public.

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Athletes and officials find the system excellent in terms of:

- Time
- Solo
- Group
- New Adjudication System
- It can also be applied in Semi final (6 couples / heat) and ¼ final (8 couples / heat)
- It is fair, transparent and clear feedback to the couples

ID CARDS

Goals

- Avoiding the need of signing the athletes' form of consent by every athlete at every competition.
- Clear identification of an athlete/couple by using a unique number instead of inconsistently spelled names and surnames.
- Reliable information about the date of birth and nationality of all athletes.
- Efficient registration and check-in procedures.
- Legal coverage for media publishers at WDSF events.
- Membership awareness of athletes.
- Responsibility awareness of national administrators.

Management

With feedback from many national administrators the management website for ID-Cards was enhanced with:

- Information about duplicate entries of ID-Card applications
- Information about ID-Card application without MIN where a MIN might exist
- Sending of customized emails to ID-Card applicants by status and date

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- Uploading of application documents
- Access for national administrator assistants
- Communication for status changes to administrators
- Link management (temporary ID-Card, Status, Application form, PDF)
- Removal of invalid applications

TECHNICAL BOOKS:

A group of professional dancers as well as the WDSF PD with several experts on Technical questions were consulted to make this second edition of the WDSF Technique Books.

My work was to overview the whole procedure and I must congratulate all involved persons for the fantastic books which will guide and unify the DanceSport knowledge in the future.

Due to these Technical Books a licenses system as well as an education system was created for Trainers and Adjudicators.

We hope we can be able to start selling at the WDSF Adjudicators Congress in Stuttgart.

CHAIRMAN HANDBOOK

After the realization of the new Competition Rule Book, the WDSF Sports Commission started immediately to work in the Chairman Handbook. I would like to thank my colleagues at the Sport Commission, especially Wolfgang Eliasch, for their help and valuable input.

This Chairman handbook is a living book and a guideline to act correctly under certain circumstances, making our WDSF Competitions even better.



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ATHLETES COMMISSION:

I have had a very close relationship the Athletes Commission and their Chair, during the year.

Mr. Plohl has been invited to the Sports Commission Meetings to have the opportunity to express the athlete's point of view.

WORLD OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Sports Commission has evaluated the actual situation of our World Open Championships, and the progress is completely satisfactory.

Therefore, the proposal is to open another age group for this kind of Championships, Senior IV.

NEW AGE GROUP

The Sports Commission will present to this 2013 AGM a new age group schedule, trying to find a better year distribution in our groups.

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.

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.

WORLD RANKING LIST COMPETITIONS

Several ideas have been brought up for the creation of a world ranking system (WRL) which can be used for Oceania and America.

During the next month, the implementation of such a system will be followed.

Thank you very much for your attention.

COMBINED COMPETITION CALENDAR

The Sports Commission is planning the development of a combined competition calendar for 2015/2016.

Marco Sietas

WDSF Sports Director