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## **WDSF PRESIDIUUM MEETING**

**June 15 June and 18, 2012**

### ***MINUTES***

**FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 10:00 – 17:00**

***PRESENT:***

President	Carlos FREITAG	
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President	Lukas HINDER	LH
General Secretary	Shawn TAY	ST
Treasurer	Tony TILENNI	TT
Sports Director	Marco SIETAS	MS
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President	Natasa AMBROZ	NA
Ordinary Member	Michael EICHERT	ME
Ordinary Member	Jim FRASER	JF
Ordinary Member	Heidi GOETZ	HG
Ordinary Member	Aleksandr MELNIKOV	AM
Ordinary Member	Zoran PLOHL	ZP
Ordinary Member	Keiji UKAI	KU
Associate Member's Representative	Grethe ANDERSEN (Wheelchair)	
Associate Member's Representative	Jeff BARTHOLOMEW (Country & Western)	
Associate Member's Representative	Miriam KERPAN-IZAK (Rock 'n Roll)	
Associate Member's Representative	Sandi WIEMERS (Baton Twirling)	
Guest (Advisor)	Richard BUNN	RB
Guest (Advisor)	Roland HILFIKER	RH
Absent	Rudi BAUMANN, Honorary Life President	



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### **Opening Remarks by the President**

The President began the meeting by welcoming all Presidium Members to Berlin, Germany on the occasion of the 2012 World DanceSport Federation Annual General Meeting. The President welcomed the new WDSF Athletes' Representative, Mr. Zoran Pohl and wished him all the best in his new and very important function and is looking forward to a good and fruitful cooperation with the WDSF athletes.

### **Preparation for the 2012 WDSF Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The President emphasized that he wished the Presidium to carefully review the Agenda and procedures for the AGM to ensure that there is full compliance with all the legal requirements of the **WDSF Statutes**.

The President will begin the AGM with the presentation of an Award to Mr. Helmut Roland, of Germany.

### **Appointment of Scrutineers for Votes at the 2012 AGM**

The Presidium decided provisionally to recommend the following for election by the AGM as Scrutineers:

Hermann GOETZ, Austria  
Marc SCHAFER, Switzerland  
Atsushi YAMADA, Japan  
Chi Wai George YIP, Hong Kong

### **Review of the Elections to the WDSF Disciplinary Council.**

The Presidium reviewed this issue briefly. The Motion and the presentation are fully-prepared.

**Approval of the Presidium's Work.** The Presidium will ask Mr. Eliasch, of Austria, to propose this Motion.

### **Presidium's Motions**



**Motion to Expel Russian DanceSport Federation.** The President reviewed the documentary support for expelling DSFR and described the procedure he proposed to follow in introducing the evidence we have received indicating that DSFR is no longer authorized under Russian law to organize or conduct international competitions in the Russian Federation; that DSFR has lost virtually all its members, adjudicators and athletes; and that DSFR has lost virtually all its support and accreditation in the Russian Federation. The President advised that he has invited WDSF's legal counsel Mr. Ross Wenzel, of Carrard & Associates, Lausanne, Switzerland, a Swiss lawyer who specializes in Swiss sport law, to attend the meeting so that the Presidium can take specialized legal advice from him if necessary during the meeting and so that he can observe the proceedings to provide additional advice if he believes it is necessary.

**Motion to modify the *Athletes'/Adjudicators' Codes of Conduct and Ethics*.** This is a very technical Motion. Mr. Hinder will conduct the presentation of this Motion and will speak on the legal reasons for and behind the Motion. Mr. Wenzel may also comment on the technical aspects of this Motion. Mr. Sietas will also comment on the sporting and organizational aspects of this Motion. Mr. Hinder emphasized the legal and organizational concept of building the "pyramid structure" in our sport in order to more fully integrate our structure and practices with those of the international sporting community generally, and the Olympic family.

**Motion to Modify the *WDSF Financial Regulations*.** Mr. Tilenni summarized the proposed changes.

**Motion to Modify the *WDSF Statutes*.** There was discussion about the significant progress of the Professional Division, but that there is more work to do in some countries. The Presidium decided that it will withdraw this Motion from the 2012 AGM but will definitely present it at the 2013 AGM.

### **Review of Members' Motions.**

The Presidium discussed these Motions in detail and voted to take the following positions:

To establish Continental Federations:	the Presidium opposes this Motion
To pay WDSF Officers:	the Presidium opposes this Motion
To amend the Codes of Conduct:	the Presidium opposes these Motions
To extend the Presidium's term of office to 4 years:	the Presidium supports this Motion



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### **Open Forum, Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>**

The President noted that this is a very important part of this Annual General Meeting. As usual, the General Secretary will be in charge of the Open Forum.

The Presidium reviewed the Revised Agenda. The subjects will be presented in the following Order:

- ITEM 1: Modification of the **WDSF Statutes** – Codes of Conduct
- ITEM 2: ID Cards – Registration System
- ITEM 3: New Rulebook
- ITEM 4: Website
- ITEM 5: Games

### **2012 SportAccord Meeting at Quebec City, Canada**

The President reported on his and Mr. Hinder's attendance at this meeting and the meetings of the IOC, IWGA, ARISF and the IMGA. This was a very successful meeting for WDSF. DanceSport will now be included one of the 20 core sports in the International Masters Games out of 105 sports recognized by SportAccord. In 2014 DanceSport will participate in the World Artistic Games in China.

This meeting provides WDSF with a major opportunity to become more prominent in world sports, and could increase our potential for inclusion in the Medal Programme of the Summer Olympic Games.

There was great support at SportAccord for WDSF's proposed World DanceSport Games, the details of which are expected to become clearer by the end of June, 2012 after Mr. Freitag attends a meeting in Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei. The Presidium discussed some of the planning for these Games. The **WDSF Competition Rules** will apply in these Games.

### **Associate Members**

Mr. Sietas reported in his capacity as Chair of the Membership Commission, and the Presidium discussed how to assist Associate Members, proposals for joint events, closer collaboration with WDSF Departments (e.g. Membership, Sport, Academy, RLS), and the closer integration of Associate Members, for example by greater use of WDSF symbols like the WDSF logo.



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## **Legal Affairs**

Mr. Fraser reported that he had spoken with Ms. Wiemers several times about the integration of the World Baton Twirling Federation (WBTF) into WDSF, and that he had provided Mr. Bartholomew with detailed suggestions about the draft **UCWDC Competition Rules**. Mr. Bartholomew informed the Presidium that this work was very helpful to the UCWDC and that he expected to do a lot of further work with Mr. Fraser in this regard during the next year.

After discussion Mr. Fraser volunteered to provide Ms. Wiemers with information and assistance with technical Anti-doping questions.

## **Communications**

Ms. Goetz reported and there was discussion about linking the WDSF Web Site to Associate Members' websites.

## **WDSF Academy**

The President emphasized that this initiative was of primary importance to WDSF.

There was discussion about the drafting, production and sale of technique texts and other information. Ms. Ambroz reported that her team was in the middle of its work on the technique texts on each dance, which are all being developed and written concurrently, but that this work is very technical and of course must be 100% technically correct, and so it is taking a lot of time. There are many things that are missing from the old technical texts and we are working to include these topics in our work. We hope to publish these texts in January, 2013.

We have now produced Waltz, Rumba, Samba and two Viennese Waltz DVDs.

We must continue with the workshops and congresses and improve our communications about them. There was a long discussion by many Presidium Members about improving our advertising of the congresses and workshops, including the potential for the use of New Media in our Education initiatives.

Ms. Ambroz reported that the adjudicators' congresses are all very successful. Mr. Sietas reported on his involvement in this work.



### **Financial Affairs**

Mr. Tilenni presented a summary of his proposal that the AGM accept the 2011 Audited Accounts for WDSF and the 2012 Budget and 2013 Provisional Budget. Motions were presented by the Treasurer asking the Presidium to approve:

- The Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expenses as at December 31, 2011, **unanimous**.
- The Auditor's Report, **unanimous**.
- The 2012 Budget, **unanimous**.
- The 2013 Provisional Budget, **unanimous**.

Mr. Tilenni reported on his implementation of new accounting software which will save much work by automatically producing invoices and automatically producing financial penalty invoices when payments are late. The WDSF Office will begin to use this system in September, 2012.

### **Change of Legal Residence of WDSF to Lucerne, Switzerland**

LH proposed this Motion to preserve WDSF's tax-free status in Switzerland. He was notified that the government of the Canton of Vaud, in which Lausanne is located, was no longer prepared to continue to grant WDSF tax-free status. Mr. Hinder advised that the government of the Canton of Lucerne would grant WDSF tax-free status if WDSF's legal residence was moved to Lucerne. Motion to transfer the legal residence of WDSF under Swiss law from Lausanne, Switzerland to Lucerne, Switzerland, as of December 31, 2012 **unanimous**.

Motion to approve the retainer agreement for a contract of Domicile with Fellmann Tschümperlin Lötscher & Partner (a firm of Swiss lawyers) having its registered domicile at Zingentorstrasse 4, 6006 Lucerne, Switzerland, passed. The Presidium authorized the President to sign the correspondent contract of domicile with Fellmann Tschümperlin Lötscher & Partner.

From January 1, 2013 the legal residence (legal seat) of WDSF will be:

World DanceSport Federation (WDSF)  
Zingentorstrasse 4  
CH-6006 Lucerne  
SWITZERLAND





## **Strategic Planning Meeting in Barcelona, Spain, April 2012**

The President reported that this was a very successful meeting and that he proposes to continue these meetings. Mr. Hinder referred for further details to his Report to the 2012 WDSF Annual General Meeting.

### **Membership Affairs**

Enquiries have been received from bodies in Cuba, Nepal and Peru which are interested in Membership in WDSF. Mr. Sietas and Mr. Tay are working with these bodies.

### **Sports Affairs**

The Presidium discussed various sporting matters. There was a presentation regarding new requirements for PDA technology.

### **General Secretary**

Australia. The President updated the Presidium on the progress of the official complaint made by the WDSF Member in New Zealand, DanceSport New Zealand (DNZ) against the Australian WDSF Member DanceSport Australia (DSA). This complaint to WDSF relates to several matters, but primarily the purported creation of a new membership category of "honorary memberships" by DSA. DSA argues that they have the legal authority to create this membership category in order to allow any unregistered athletes from anywhere in the world to compete at DSA competitions *as DSA members in Australia*. In addition, this membership category could undermine the WDSF DanceSport system and all WDSF Member bodies, especially DNZ. The new membership category is also primarily designed to permit unregistered Asian athletes to compete in Australia.

The Presidium agreed that because DNZ and DSA had been unable to find a solution and DSA refused to withdraw this new membership category, the President would once again refer the complaint to our lawyers for action.

England. An organizer supports WDSF and produces a WDSF competition; currently it is our only producing organizer in England. The Presidium discussed advice that it had received that our English Member's athletes have joined the British Dance Council (BDC) because they must do so in order to enter domestic competitions; it was noted that BDC is a Member of the WDC Amateur League (WDC-AL).



There are numerous proposals to organize WDSF competitions in England.

USA. Mr. Sietas went to the USA in March to encourage the development of competitions there. We had two successful congresses in the USA this year to build a group of WDSF Adjudicators in the USA. There was a discussion about the U.S. situation.

***The meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M..***

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**Monday, June 18, 2012 10:00 – 12:30**

*PRESENT:*

- |                                |                                       |    |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----|
| President                      | Carlos FREITAG                        |    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President | Lukas HINDER                          |    |
| General Secretary              | Shawn TAY                             |    |
| Treasurer                      | Tony TILENNI                          |    |
| Sports Director                | Marco SIETAS                          |    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President | Natasa AMBROZ                         |    |
| Ordinary Member                | Michael EICHERT                       |    |
| Ordinary Member                | Jim FRASER                            |    |
| Ordinary Member                | Heidi GOETZ                           |    |
| Ordinary Member                | Aleksandr MELNIKOV                    |    |
| Ordinary Member                | Zoran PLOHL                           |    |
| Ordinary Member                | Ken RICHARDS                          | KR |
| Ordinary Member                | Keiji UKAI                            |    |
| Guest (Advisor)                | Richard BUNN                          |    |
| Guest (Advisor)                | Roland HILFIKER                       |    |
| Attendance not required        | Grethe ANDERSEN (Wheelchair)          |    |
|                                | Jeff BARTHOLOMEW (Country & Western)  |    |
|                                | Miriam KERPAN-IZAK (Rock 'n Roll)     |    |
|                                | Sandi WIEMERS (Baton Twirling)        |    |
| Absent                         | Rudi BAUMANN, Honorary Life President |    |





### **Opening Remarks by the President**

The President called the meeting to order at 10:00 and thanked the Presidium for its intensive work since this Meeting adjourned on Friday. He and the other Presidium Members then welcomed newly-elected Presidium Member Ken Richards to the Presidium.

### **Application by Russian DanceSport Union for Full Membership**

Mr. Freitag advised the meeting that the Russian DanceSport Union has applied for Full Membership in the World DanceSport Federation.

Mr. Fraser advised the meeting that in his opinion the Russian DanceSport Union has fulfilled all of the requirements set out in Article 5 of the **WDSF Statutes** for application for Full Membership in the World DanceSport Federation. *MOVED*, by Mr. Fraser, that the Russian DanceSport Union (RDSU) be granted Full Membership in the World DanceSport Federation, effective immediately; **UNANIMOUS**.

Mr. Freitag invited the RDSU representative Ms. Anastasia Titkova, Mr. Nikolai Lents, Counsellor to the President of the 2014 Winter Olympic Games, and Mr. Gennadiy Aleshin, Co-Chairman of the Russian Committee of National and Non-Olympic Sports ("CNNKSR") to speak to the meeting; all of them thanked the Presidium for its friendly and objective sporting communications during a difficult period this year, and all confirmed their belief that RDSU and WDSF have now embarked on a new era of success for the athletes, trainers and adjudicators of the Russian Federation. Mr. Freitag spoke with the representatives about several matters of importance to WDSF with respect to Russia. Mr. Freitag reported that the MC hopes to conclude negotiations with RDSU for a 5-year Grand Slam project in Russia, and he asked RDSU to review problems associated with the cancellation of the 2012 WDSF European Youth Latin Championships earlier this year.

### **Television and New Media**

Mr. Bunn reported on several matters regarding televising DanceSport. There was a lengthy discussion regarding technical matters. Before the end of this month Mr. Sietas will send Richard Bunn copies of all the contracts for the Championships which will be televised by IEC in 2013.

### **New Adjudication System**

Mr. Sietas reported that the new system is working well and that it can be used to provide information directly to TV or to the Web Site. There was a



lengthy discussion about the business of television as it affects DanceSport and WDSF.

### **Athletes' Commission**

The Presidium discussed the need for early elections to the Athletes' Commission. Mr. Freitag asked Mr. Fraser to work with Mr. Plohl to prepare a clear and correct system of nominations and elections of athletes from the Americas, Asia and Oceania. We also need to elect Senior Athletes' and Youth Athletes' Representatives. Mr. Plohl will make his best efforts to attend appropriate WDSF Championships to supervise such elections.

### **United States**

Mr. Freitag asked Mr. Richards for his proposals to produce WDSF World Ranking Tournament competitions (WRTs) in the United States. Mr. Richards promised to do so and expressed optimism that WDSF would be able to grant the WDSF Member in there (USA DanceSport) WDSF competitions for production by new producers, and that some producers who formerly produced WDSF WRTs in the USA might now be prepared to resume doing so.

### **Pan American Games**

The Pan American Sports Organization (PASO) is an international organization which represents the current 41 National Olympic Committees of the Americas. It is formally affiliated with the International Olympic Committee. PASO produces the prestigious **Pan American Games** somewhere in the Americas every four years. Previously, the number of countries in the Americas which were represented by WDSF Members was not sufficient to permit WDSF to apply for medal status for DanceSport in the prestigious Pan American Games. Now, because there are many new WDSF Members in the Americas, DanceSport may have a better chance to apply successfully. Mr. Freitag asked Mr. Richards to investigate the possibility of including DanceSport in the next Pan-American Games, which will be held in Toronto, Canada in 2015. Mr. Richards accepted the assignment and Mr. Fraser will work with him on the project.

### **Review of 2012 Annual General Meeting**

Mr. Freitag reviewed the results of the AGM. He believes that the Presidium and the Members and the athletes and the adjudicators and trainers are all fighting for the same thing and that we all win when we have good



discussions and good agreements in the AGM. Members discussed the events at the AGM at length and in detail. The Presidium heard the clear voice of the Members in the General Meeting, and fully accepts the General Meeting's decisions. The Presidium will review how we can more completely reflect the views of the Members; the Presidium is proud of WDSF's Members and proud of the friendly sporting consensus which was reached by the generosity and understanding of all people in the meeting yesterday. The Presidium agreed that it has an obligation to try harder to provide more information about its work and its decisions to the Members, and that it should try harder to provide such information earlier than has been its previous practice. WDSF's way to grow and promote DanceSport is better than all other organizations' ways of doing these things. The Presidium asked Mr. Fraser to immediately draft a precedent letter for use by athletes who are currently under suspension, which they can use to apply for revocation of any suspension or suspensions. Mr. Fraser did so during the meeting and provided the precedent letter immediately to the General Secretary for his use. A copy of the precedent letter is attached to these Minutes.

### **Miscellaneous**

The Presidium reviewed the current status of various new computer software which it proposes to use to improve service to athletes, adjudicators and Members, including re: Championships. The Presidium also reviewed the current status of WDSF Grand Slam production and applications, including reviewing the status of cooperation regarding television broadcasting with the technical advisor Mr. Bunn.

The President advised that the next scheduled Presidium Meeting will be held at Barcelona, Spain on January 19-20, 2013.

### ***The Meeting adjourned at 12:30 P.M..***

*[Minutes prepared by Jim Fraser and approved by the Presidium, July 25, 2012.]*

***Singapore, July 25, 2012***

**SHAWN TAY**  
**WDSF General Secretary**