

EWF GENERAL CONGRESS MEETING MINUTES

October 14th, 2022

Durres (ALB), Grand Blue Fafa Resort

EWF General Congress started at 09:30.

At the main table sat: EWF President, Kt. Antonio Conflitti; EWF General Secretary, Dr Milan Mihajlovic; EWF Treasurer, Dr Astrit Hasani; EWF Committees Chairpersons: TC - Tina Baiter, CR&SC – Colin Buckley, MC – Tryggve Duun, AC – Patrick Fassott; IWF Vice President, Atila Adamfi; President of the Albanian Weightlifting Federation, Elez Gjoza.

Mr. Colin Buckley, EWF Covid-19 officer, before the Congress got started, gave the Congress delegates a briefing on the present Covid-19 status and the regulations that will be followed during Congress and Competitions after. He said that EWF abides with the rules of the IWF, the Albanian government, and the EWF and AWF federations.

1. Delegate Power Control / Roll Call

Thirty NFs attended the EWF Congress at the Grand Blue Fafa resort Congress Room, according to EWF AC Chairmen Patrick Fassott.

The task of counting all the votes fell to the EWF AC Chairmen, Patrick Fassott, and Assistant of the EWF General Secretary, Tamara Jovic.

Please see Annex #1 the List of Congress delegates

2. Welcome

All Congress delegates were welcomed by EWF President Antonio Conflitti, who thanked AWF for hosting the event. He also greeted IWF Vice President Atila Adamfi; IWF EB member and IWF TD for weightlifting at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, Matthew Curtain; and AWF President Elez Gjoza.

Elez Gjoza extends a cordial welcome to all attendees on behalf of the AWF and expresses gratitude for being trusted to plan the second significant EWF event of the year. AWF is happy that EWF will spend the following ten days in Albania.

Atila Adamfi, the vice president of IWF, thanked EWF on behalf of IWF and gave a brief update on IWF activities: IWF President, General Secretary, and First Vice President visited IOC following electoral congress; IWF continues with zero tolerance policy regarding doping; IWF opened tender for TV rights regarding Olympic qualification events; four CAS appeals regarding IWF election results are ongoing; draft IWF Coaches license will be presented by EWF CRSC chairman during IWF EB meeting in Bogota, and IWF legal department will express their opinion.

3. Approval of the Minutes of Congress in Durres 2022

The minutes from the previous Congress were emailed, according to EWF General Secretary Milan Mihajlovic. Atila Adamfi (HUN) earlier noticed a few typos that were fixed.

The present delegates are invited to express questions and comments about the draft minutes. There were no comments or complaints, thus the voting was conducted. The minutes of the previous EWF Congress were approved unanimously.

4. Information about the Championships

Mr. Elez Gjoza delivered the key information on the 2022 European Junior & U23 Championships on behalf of the AWF. The local government and ministries are contacted, a transportation service is recruited, there are lots of volunteers available, and the airport has electronic passport control. The competition venue is about 15 minutes away from where we are, where training is taking place. The mayor of Durres has given us permission to use the Youth Sport Center for three weeks, and everything will be prepared for the opening ceremony. The AWF is at the participants' disposal, making sure that everyone is welcomed and secure.

5. Confirmation of the Selected Technical Officials EWF TC Chairwomen

The list of the chosen TOs for the 2022 European Junior & U23 Championships was read by Tina Baiter, Chairwoman of the EWF TC.

Please see Annex #2 the List of ITOs 2022 European Junior & U23 Championships

6. Approval of the Report on the activities of:

- EWF President

The EWF President reminded everyone that his report had been sent via email. During the EWF Congress in May, there was the first live gathering of leaders from all five continents. Street and beach weightlifting events were proposed as a new competitive style to increase the popularity of events. All were invited to collaborate after the IWF elections were over. During the Mediterranean Games, we lost the president of the French Weightlifting Federation, and EWF President asked for a moment of silence.

The Maccabean Games, a multisport competition, was also attended by the EWF President. In Jerusalem, there was a chance to scout potential locations for future European Championships. The EWF has to up the level of competition in order to "market" the event. The 2022 European Youth and U15 Championships in Poland were a high-class event. The International Open Tournament in Arad was also attended by the EWF President, and Arad has the potential to host some European championships. The EWF President congratulated Backly, Canzek, and Music for their contributions to the Split training camp's success. A technical delegation also travelled to Albania, then visit to Italy which expressed interest in hosting future European senior championships. In the IWF Sport Innovation Commission, tasked with enhancing the sport of weightlifting, was appointed the EWF President. Draft constitution is almost complete and will be distributed to EB members and NFs. The EB members and GS were acknowledged by the EWF President for their help.

The vote was conducted since there were no objections to the Report.

The report of the EWF President was approved unanimously.

Please see Annex #3 the EWF President Report

- EWF General Secretary

The EWF General Secretary reminded everyone that the report had been sent via email. In May, the 100th European Senior Championships proceeded in Tirana following the EWF Congress in Durres. Awards for

the EWF Fair Play and Best Weightlifter for 2021 were presented during the Opening Ceremony. An AIPS Europe representative's involvement will enhance activities in the future. A number of competitions took place in July and August, including the Mediterranean Games, European Union Weightlifting Cup, Maccabean Games, Visegrad 4 - Olympic dreams, Islamic Solidarity Games, and Commonwealth Games. IWF's Electoral Congress took place in Tirana at the end of June. These competitions were closely monitored by the EWF secretariat on social media, and the secretariat requested that LOCs share any information about events. Oren Shai, who organized brilliant event, presented the YMCA Sports Centre and other venues as potential locations for European Championships during the 2022 Maccabean Games, which were hosted in Israel in July. From July 1 to July 4, 2022's Mediterranean Weightlifting competition was held in Oran. As a technical delegate for the games, I collaborated with the LOC to turn the two-day event into a four-day event by increasing the number of sessions from four to eight. Poland hosted the successful 2022 European Youth and U15 Weightlifting Championships in August of that year. As before, the Record certificate was created, given to record holders, and shared on social media. The month of September begins with a visit to Serbia by IWF President Mohamad Jaloud. A EWF youth training camp was held in Split, Croatia, from September 5–September 11; we travelled there from Belgrade. The President of the Albanian Weightlifting Federation and the Mayor of Durres met on September 22 to finalize plans for the 2022 European Junior & U23 Championships. With the full approval of the EWF President, some results from "old" European championships were gathered with the General Secretary of the Spain Weightlifting Federation and placed on the EWF website in September because many EWF results are missing. The promotion of EWF events on social media is still going on; for instance, EWF's Facebook following has increased from 6K in April 2021 to over 12K at this time.

The vote was conducted since there were no objections, comments to the Report.

The report of the EWF General Secretary was approved unanimously.

Please see Annex #4 the EWF GS Report

- EWF Treasurer

The EWF Treasurer Report was previously distributed through email. Dr. Hasani, the EWF Treasurer, gave a report that detailed the EWF's assets, liabilities, expenses, and revenue.

Patrik Helgesson (SWE) asked if there was something different this year compared to last year and why we had so big surplus. The EWF Treasurer said that because to Covid, everything planned could not be completed, which is why there remained money remaining.

There were no objections to the Report, so the vote was taken.

EWF Treasurer Report was approved unanimously.

Please see Annex #5 the EWF Treasurer Report

The Committees:

- EWF TC

Tina Baiter, the chairwoman of the EWF TC, recalled that the EWF TC Report had previously been distributed through email. Additional explanation to the report was given: platforms at competition and in the warming up area during the 2022 European Senior Championships had shortcomings; both the idea of ITOs using single rooms and the possibility of holding competitions over a shorter period of time should be additionally examined.

The vote was conducted since there were no objections to the Report.

EWF TC Chairwomen report was approved unanimously.

Please see Annex #6 the EWF TC Report

- EWF CR&SC

The EWF CR&SC Report was previously distributed through email. IWF Vice President Peter Kroll's cooperation with coach licensing operations was acknowledged by Colin Buckley, Chairman of the EWF CR&SC, during meetings with him in Poland and other zoom sessions when that subject was covered. It was highlighted how crucial close communication with the IWF CR&SC is. EWF CR&SC Chairman anticipates that the IWF EB meeting in Colombia in December 2022 will decide on the coach license, and that it will also be debated at the conference in Sweden in March 2023, where representatives from all five continents may gather. A further expansion of online education for coaches and athletes is necessary. The EWF CR&SC Chairman praised the Croatian Weightlifting Federation, Damjan Canzek, and Amar Music for the training camp that was held in Split in September. He suggested that two training camps be held in 2023, and that invitations to host those camps would be sent soon.

The vote was conducted since there were no objections to the Report.

EWF CR&SC Chairmen report was approved unanimously.

Please see Annex #7 the EWF CR&SC Report

- EWF MC

The EWF MC Report was previously distributed by email. Tryggve Duun, Chairman of the EWF MC, spoke about the MC's plans to host more seminars and include more doctors at EWF events, with special focus on the life-saving seminar. Expectations include that everything will be ready for the coming competition, including an ambulance, ice for injured competitors, and a space for anti-doping testing. Eric Jan Kwekkeboom (NED) proposed to develop a physio-therapeutic network, which will be highly beneficial for EWF MC's future activity.

The vote was conducted since there were no objections to the Report.

EWF MC Chairmen report was approved unanimously.

Please see Annex #8 the EWF MC Report

The Commissions:

- EWF Anti-doping & Fair play

The EWF Anti-doping & Fair play commission joint Report was previously distributed through email. The anti-doping and fair play commission reports were jointly given by Denise Offermann, the Chairwoman of the EWF Anti-doping Commission. She described the anti-doping and fair play initiatives taken by the EWF commissions before offering anti-doping documentation for download on the EWF website and concluding, "We cannot do this without you," urging everyone to accept and support these activities.

Please see Annex #9 the EWF Anti-doping and Fair play Report

7. Information about forthcoming EWF Championships:

- 2023 European Senior Championships

The competition will take place in Yerevan from April 15 to April 23, 2023. The EWF president and general secretary will make a technical visit to the host federation soon.

- 2023 European Youth & U15 Championships

At the moment, there is no official applicant for the competition.

- 2023 European Junior & U23 Championships

At the moment, there is no official applicant for the competition.

According to the EWF President, more NFs have expressed a desire to host championships in 2023 and 2024, but we have yet to receive formal nominations.

The president of the EWF provided information on certain "last-minute" preparations for the European Games in the hopes that weightlifting would be added to the schedule. He thanks Matthew Curtain (GBR) for helping to support and establish communication for that activity. Matthew Curtain also expressed his desire and hope for weightlifting to be included in the Olympics.

Matthew Curtain, IWF TD for weightlifting at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, gave a summary of the qualification procedure. The qualification system is currently being updated and upgraded by IWF, and once it has been approved, notification will be provided to all NFs.

8. Award well-deserving personalities

All EWF MFs were invited by the EWF President to suggest nominees for EWF awards. At the following EWF Congress, honouring deserving individuals will take place.

9. Updates about the EWF Constitution

Oren Shai, the chair of the EWF Legal Affairs, reported that the final revisions are currently being made to the draft EWF Constitution and other documents. Among other things, he mentioned that future EBs would be consisted of athletes also. He expresses the expectation that the EWF Congress in Yerevan in 2023 will result in the Constitution's adoption.

The draft Constitution will be distributed to EWF MFs and EWF EB members on November 1st, and EWF MFs have until November 30th, 2022, to submit their thoughts / comments to the EWF secretariat.

10. Presentations by sponsors

Andreas Andrén (ELEIKO) thanks EWF and MFs for their earlier support of Eleiko, presented ELEIKO equipment and expresses their desire to maintain their strong collaboration.

11. Other proposals by National Federations and the Delegates

EWF President discussed on the general accommodation process for the European Championships, specifically the potential for lodging ITOs in single rooms.

The initiative for a meeting about event issues was already identified, thus the EWF General Secretary requested that the subject be considered at the EWF Zoom conference in November.

As there were no more registered for the discussion, EWF President declared EWF Congress closed at 14:00 CET.



Dr Milan V. MIHAJLOVIC
EWF General Secretary