



Participants:

- Ulrich Feldhoff,
- Albert Woods,
- Istvan Vaskuti, Jean-Michel Prono, Jorn Cronberg,
- Jens Perlwitz, Greg Smale,
- Ben Fuller, Lluís Rabaneda i Caselles
- Donald McKenzie, Belén Sánchez Jiménez.

Invited:

- Csaba Szanto, Elke Sommer,
- Albert Woods, Ana-Marija Garcevic

Distribution:

- Members of the Board of Directors

**MINUTES COMPETITION COMMISSION MEETING
GUATEMALA CITY – GUATEMALA – 11th October 2007**

1) Duties / Responsibilities of the Technical Committees according to the ICF Rules

- Committees now work in more professional way
- The principle of work will be reviewed and it will be taken into consideration that the Chairs are not paid staff

2) Amendment of the ICF Statutes and Competition Rules

- National Federations will be informed about the planned rules changes by the Technical Committees Chairs before the deadline to submit proposals (1st January 2008)
- Slalom – changes regarding competition programme, gate system, judging system
- Wildwater – changes mostly regarding security
- Marathon – changes regarding more than one class competing together, reducing the lap length to make it more attractive, number of competition days
- Freestyle – new set of rules for the Congress; final draft is in preparation and it will be ready before next Board of Directors; first draft will be presented to the Executive Committee in January 2008, Competition Commission in February 2008 and then to the Board of Directors in April 2008
- Athletes Committee – changes regarding elections of the Chair, the process will be proposed to the Board of Directors
- Flatwater – changes regarding ICF registered boat, IT system, on-line entries, new World Championships format (reducing the programme), World Cup system and programme, introducing Masters event (the name of World Championship will not be used – accepted by the Commission), World Cup bidding and allocation rules
- Canoe Sailing – changes regarding new type of boat
- Canoe Polo – changes regarding referees, World Cup system, qualification system for World Championships, introducing again U21 Women (subject to the Board of Directors decision)

Resolution:

The name “World Championships” will not be used in relation to Masters event.

The Chairs will submit the planned rules changes proposals before 15 November. After that the proposals will be distributed to the National Federations.

Wildwater development project will be discussed at the next Board of Directors meeting in 2008.

3) Review of the ICF Competition Format

a) World Cup System

- we need fixed dates which are difficult to set, there is no perfect solution for each NF
- bidding and allocation system is crucial
- we need one contract for all disciplines

Resolutions:

2008 Flatwater World Cup allocations will be decided at the Board Meeting the next day. The allocations for 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 will be decided at the next Board meeting in April 2008 after the implementation of the new World Cup system.

b) World Championships Programme

Flatwater

- to improve: women events, attractiveness, reducing of the WCh programme
- to consider: which events we want at the Olympic Games and which distances in the long run
- we have to be careful when changing the Olympic Programme – every change must be a general improvement for the Olympic Games programme, otherwise it can happen that we lose events
- for the moment we have 16 (12 + 4) events at the OG, and this puts ICF in a good position
- every change should be tested first sufficiently at the World Championships
- one of the options can be establishing of the Olympic disciplines World Championships – this would offer top events to TV and comply with the IOC principles

Resolutions:

Flatwater Chair will present the new system concept at the next Board of Directors in April 2008.

Once the Board discusses this issue, the concept will be presented to the Congress 2008 for decision.

Slalom

- the Programme is good and has been embraced by TV, the only question is how to introduce a second women event

Canoeing World Games

- a proposal to introduce an event which would combine all disciplines and would be held instead of World Championships every 4 years needs to be worked on and will then be dealt with by the decision-making bodies.

Resolutions:

The proposal will be presented to the Board of Directors for a basic decision.

c) World Ranking System

- for the moment we have World Ranking System in Slalom and Marathon
- on-line entries should be ready for Slalom for the next season

d) Calendar Skeleton

Resolutions:

Csaba Szanto will work on the proposal for the Calendar Skeleton and present it at the next Competition Commission meeting in February 2008.

e) ICF and Organisers Agreement and Manual

- Agreement should be obligatory and extended to the World Cups

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requirements should be considerably different for Olympic and non-Olympic disciplines, juniors and seniors <p>f) Efficiency of Judging Process (ITEM 6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - we have to find a way to generate higher standard - examination process should be improved - Technical Video System in Slalom is seen as a part of improvement - the education process started at the Slalom World Championships 2007 - the feedback by the Committee should be given to the judges about their judging - the judges are not updating their knowledge (including rules changes) – this can be influenced by organising yearly courses which would include a test in the end – people who pass the test could get higher classification - the classification is one step forward in creating of pool of high quality judges and ICF should invest in it - we should have the same (or similar) system for all disciplines - National Federations should participate in the costs of judges education and their development as well as sending them to the competitions
<p>4) Participation of women at the ICF events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - this will be discussed more in detail during the Board of Directors meeting
<p>5) Implementation of the ICF Strategic Planning Process (ISPP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - this will be discussed more in detail during the Board of Directors meeting
<p>6) Officials Training and Education (emphasis on Slalom)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - discussed in Item 3f
<p>7) Support organisation of continental and regional games and championships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICF needs to help to the organisers of the continental and regional games and championships – this will lead to increase of the number of countries at the World Championships - Slalom should be included in the programme of the Asian and PanAm Games - Development programme already has the budget, but it must be clear within continental associations how this budget will be used <p>Resolutions: Continental Associations will receive second half of the support only after they justify the use of the first half.</p>
<p>8) To develop and implement marketing and licensing structures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Licensing or marking system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it is included in the documents, but nothing was done so far - sailing has professional licensing system – the expert who was working on this will be also working for a fee on our licensing rules – this will include also agreements with sport producers and advertising rules b) Official Suppliers agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a sport marketing agency was commissioned to work on this, only starting fee has to be paid, the rest will be on commission basis c) TV Guidelines and Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A former EBU staff member was asked/commissioned to work on the new TV guidelines for a fee – he will formulate the guidelines from TV perspective, then it will presented to the Executive Committee and the Chairs for feedback - The President will report to the Board of Directors about development of this matter

9) Improvement of TV presence between Olympic Games

- TV requirements are increasing, they are more extensive
- To have sponsors, canoeing needs a good TV presence; to achieve this, the National Federations need to be involved more intensely
- There are 2 issues: number of countries taking the signal and number of audience
- National Federations should contact their national broadcasters more intensely in order that they take the signal and ICF should assist them.
- The season is too short – especially for Slalom – to get reasonable coverage we need season from March to October – there is enough TV space in March to May and in October
- Slalom programme is excellent for TV formats, but Flatwater needs to be shortened (the deadline to change Olympic programme is 2009);
- EBU prefers live finals that last 1.5 hour maximum (for non-Olympic disciplines 1 hour)
- TV coverage should also be secured for World Cup competitions; allocation should be based on the principle if a National Federation is able to provide TV coverage even 3-4 years in advance – this will ensure long-term contract with sponsors/TV for one event (fixed time, place and TV coverage in whole Olympic cycle)
- We have to take advantage of good coverage in Beijing
- There is a possibility that EBU nominates one production company to work with ICF

Resolutions:

Every Committee will provide a plan of competitions for 2008 (2009 and 2010) to be included in the TV Coverage package.

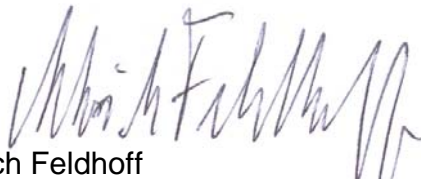
10) Development Programme Coaches Pool

- few years ago National Federations were asked to nominate coaches for the Development Programme Coaches Pool
- this Pool needs to be updated

11) Youth Olympic Games

- IOC has currently allocated 64 quota places to the ICF for the Youth Olympic Games
- The President informed the Commission members about the YOG purpose and principles: besides competition programme, the Youth Games will include also the educational and cultural programme; only Olympic sports are included; 3200 athletes in total
- 64 quota places are planned for Flatwater, Slalom will be discussed after the allocation of the YOG host city

Minutes taken by Ana-Marija Garcevic.



Ulrich Feldhoff
ICF President / Competition Commission Chair