

MINUTES World Skate Elective Congress Rome (Italy) - 27th November 2021

National Federations attending LIVE:

2. Angola 3. Argentina

1. Andorra

4. Belarus Fed.RS&SB

5. Belgium 6. Benin 7. Brazil SB 8. Burkina Faso

9. Chile 10. China

11. Chinese Taipei 12. Congo DR 13. Congo 14. Croatia **15.** Cuba

16. Czech Rep. 17. Dominican Rep.

18. Ecuador 19. Egypt 20. El Salvador 21. Gabon

22. Georgia SB

23. Great Britain

24. Greece 25. Guatemala 26. Guinea Bissau 27. Guinea Conakry

28. India 29. Ireland 30. Israel 31. Italy

32. Ivory Coast 33. Latvia ILH 34. Malaysia 35. Mauritius 36. Mexico 37. Morocco

38. Mozambique 39. Nepal

40. Netherlands KNSB 41. Netherlands SB 42. Pakistan

43. Paraguay 44. Peru

45. Poland

46. Portugal

47. Puerto Rico

48. Russia 49. Russia SB

50. San Marino

51. Senegal

52. Sierra Leone

53. Slovakia 54. Slovenia

55. South-Africa(Art.

Speed)

56. South Korea

57. Spain 58. Sudan

59. Sweden SB

60. Uganda 61. Ukraine

62. USA 63. USA SB 64. Venezuela

National Federations attending REMOTELY

1. Australia 2. Austria 3. Belarus SB 4. Bolivia 5. Brazil

6. Cambodia (no vote) 7. Canada RS 8. Canada ILH

9. Canada SB 10. Costarica 11. Finnland SB 12. France 13. Germany

14. Ghana 15. Haiti 16. Hong Kong 17. Indonesia

18.Iran 19. Japan

20. Kazahkstan 21. Kenya 22. Latvia SB

23. Liberia 24. Lithuania 25. Macau 26. Macedonia

27. Malta 28. Myanmar 29. Namibia 30. New Zealand

31. Norway 32. Pakistan 33. Philippines

34. Serbia

35. Slovenia SB

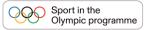
36. South Africa RH

37. Sweden ILH 38. Switzerland

39. Tanzania 40. Thailandia 41. Timor Leste

42. Togo 43. Uruguay

44. Zambia (no vote)



WORLD SKATE Executive Board Members attending:

- Sabatino Aracu President
- Roberto Marotta Secretary General
- Doris Gentile Vice Secretary General
- Karen Doyle First Vice President and Commissioner World Skate Oceania
- Alberto Herrera Ayala Vice President (World Skate America)
- Nathanaël Koty Vice President (World Skate Africa)
- Nicola Genchi Chairman of the Artistic Technical Commission
- Jorge Roldan Chairman of the Speed Skating Technical Commission
- Sigfried Zistler Chairman of the Roller Alpine and Downhill Technical Commission
- Carmelo Paniagua Chairman of the Rink Hockey Technical Commission
- Gary Ream Chairman of the Skateboarding Commission
- Andrea Fonzari Chairman of the Inline Hockey Technical Commission
- Olivier Pascal Chairman of the Roller Freestyle Technical Commission
- Kelvin Koo Chairman of the Inline Freestyle Technical Commission
- Fernando Regueiro Chairman of the Roller Derby Technical Commission
- Patricia Wallace Chairman of the Sports Medicine Commission

ALSO ATTENDING:

• World Skate Managers & Staff

AGENDA

- 1. Declaration of constitutive and deliberative quorum
- 2. Appointment of scrutineers
- 3. Approval of the Minutes of the previous Congress
- 4. President's report
- 5. Secretary General's report
- 6. Financial report
- 7. Presentation of candidates and elections for World Skate Presidency and First -Vice Presidency
- 8. Presentation of candidates and elections for Continental Area Presidency (WorldSkate Vice-Presidency) and Continental Vice-Presidency
- 9. Ratification and withdrawal of memberships
- 10. Items of general interest duly submitted by Member Federations and/or by theExecutive Board within 60 days
- 11. Other urgent issues raised after the notification of the Agenda of the meeting. Their inclusion shall be subject to the approval of two thirds of the votes.
 - 12. Miscellaneous

The Congress starts at 10.30am.



World Skate President Sabatino Aracu opens the Congress greeting all the delegates who have gathered in Rome along with those connected remotely, and the dignitaries in attendance, Giovanni Malagò, President of the Italian Olympic Committee and Francesco Ricci Bitti, ASOIF President. Together with his voting partner, Karen Doyle, President Aracu greets all the top international sports personalities that are watching the live stream of the Congress, especially the IOC representatives Kit McConnell, IOC Sports Director, and Rachel Spry.

Finally, Aracu greets those who are not attending: Fernando Claro, President of World Skate Europe and Liu Guoyong, President of World Skate Asia who did not run for re-election.

Before starting the proceedings, Aracu introduces a video message by the President of the IOC, Thomas Bach, who wishes to extend his greetings to World Skate. Bach points out that this is the first Congress after the skateboarding debut at the Olympics, which the athletes have celebrated in the best possible way making World Skate proud. Therefore, Bach thanks World Skate for its outstanding contribution to the success of the Tokyo Olympic Games and highlights the work that World Skate and the IOC are doing together to develop the 2020+5 Olympic program.

Aracu then gives the floor to the President of the Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI), Giovanni Malagò, who proudly describes the Salone d'Onore hosting the Congress at the Foro Italico, an internationally renowned sports facility. Malagò takes the opportunity to remind everyone that the CONI has won the bid for the Milano-Cortina Winter Olympics and that he chairs the Organizing Committee. Furthermore, he stresses the strong reputation that President Aracu has on the national and international sports scene, recalling also the long-standing friendship he has with Roberto Marotta, former secretary general of the BMW Dealer Association.

Finally, he thanks Ricci Bitti for his friendship and Karen Doyle for the joint candidature with Aracu. The activity World Skate has been doing in recent years is always regarded as an outstanding example.

The floor is then given to Francesco Ricci Bitti, who thanks Aracu and Malagò for their welcome and congratulates World Skate on the results achieved in Tokyo, which are an excellent start in the Olympic world.

As ASOIF President, Ricci Bitti wishes to make a recommendation: World Skate governs many disciplines, not just the Olympic one. At this stage of its growth, attention needs to be paid to the complexities that this entails. Work is underway in the IOC to produce recommendations for the 2028 Olympic program that will be presented to the EB on December 10 ahead of the final meeting in Beijing. World Skate can look forward to a very bright future.

Aracu gives the floor to the Secretary General, Roberto Marotta, to start the proceedings.

Marotta states that the Congress is being attended by 85 voting + 5 non-voting countries (both in person and remotely) for a total of 493 votes, with a majority quorum of 247 votes. Marotta also clarifies that should any of the delegate leave the meeting temporarily, a quorum shall be established according to the number of votes cast.

Finally, he asks for the electronic voting system to be tested.

From a technical standpoint, Marotta specifies that after casting a vote, the delegates should press the OK button.



2. APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

Since the Congress will no longer be using the traditional voting system, which needs to be checked manually, the voting process will be verified electronically. Alessandro Foti, the electronic system technician, Niccolò Lais (Italy) and Lauro Netto (Brazil) are appointed as scrutineers.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE CONGRESS HELD IN BARCELONA

Since the Secretariat has received no feedback on the minutes, the Secretary General puts the approval of the minutes of the previous Congress to the vote:

In favor: 345 Against: 0 Abstentions: 16

Non-voting countries: 132

5. REPORT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Roberto Marotta recalls how complex the last two years have been, as the staggering growth experienced by World Skate coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic and the staff had to work remotely with many difficulties. Right now, World Skate has a staff of 32 people working for different departments in many parts of the world.

Six world championships took place in 2021, in addition to the Tokyo Olympics.

World Skate was founded in 1924 and in three years' time it will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. It is a member of many associations: ASOIF, GAISF, ARISF, IWGA, Pan-American Games, Asian Games. Back in 1924, there were just a few affiliated federations, now there are 144 federations recognized by the relevant Olympic Committees and Sports Ministries. Marotta once again invites those countries where there are multiple federations to merge them. This is a difficult yet fundamental process.

Finally, Marotta points out that President Aracu and the Eexecutive Board have resolved not to charge the 2020 annual membership fee in view of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

6. RATIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Roberto Marotta moves on to the next item on the agenda and reads the financial statements as at December 31, 2020. The document that the delegates have received explains each item in detail. The most important sources of revenue are the IOC contributions, which amount to \$1,412,000, the registration fees for World Skate seminars, the fees paid by organizers for major events, the Olympic qualifications, and the fee paid by Nanjing for 2018, among others. All these events and the fees thereof amount to \$2,289,254. The total revenues for 2020 amount to \$4,049,159.

As regards expenditure, the most significant item concerns the development and promotion of the federation for a total of \$98,028, together with the expenses associated with the organization of seminars which amount to \$92,859. The most substantial expenses are those related to World Skate staff and collaborators, totaling \$1,010,205. The expenses for the development of special projects account for \$129,297, while those for communication activities, the website, and World Skate TV amount to \$97,689.



Total expenditure amounts to \$2,088,019. Therefore, 2020 closed with a positive balance by \$1,961,140 which means that, together with the cash availability recorded as at January 1, 2020, the cash available as at December 31, 2020 amounts to \$3,681,570.

The financial statements are accompanied by the Auditor's report.

Voting for the approval of the financial statements:

In favor:418 Against:0 Abstentions:14

7. REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

President Aracu takes the floor and thanks everyone for attending the Congress during which, for the first time, an election day will be celebrated based on the principle of gender equality. Voting members will be electing not only the President and the First Vice President, but also all the Continental Presidents with their respective Vice Presidents.

Aracu lists the candidates to whom he wishes the best of luck. He hopes that the Congress will result in the setting up of a great team that will work together and cooperate effectively.

World Skate is now considered a great Federation. The benefit of being an Olympic Federation will apply to everyone and having so many delegates in person is a great achievement.

A challenging COVID protocol has been put in place so that everyone could attend the Congress in person while securing its smooth running.

It is thanks to the work done by every single person in the Federation that World Skate has been able to participate in the Olympics. An excellent communications staff has contributed to the drafting of the rulebook regulating the participation of skateboarding in Tokyo. A copy of the rulebook has been put on each table. World Skate is the Federation that has recorded the highest number of views on social media during the Tokyo Olympics. Six World Championships were also held in the other disciplines, some of them organized directly by World Skate.

The President stresses how important it is to support the continuous development of the Federation's staff and executives, as well as to train highly skilled coaches for all the disciplines. That is why it is important to highlight the role of the World Skate Academy which is the body entrusted with the training of those who will be great managers in the sports world. The secretaries of the Continental Areas will have to attend training courses, while online courses will be organized for the secretaries of the national federations. Small countries will also have the opportunity to access such courses through the Olympic solidarity. They will be able to apply for seminars, national training courses, etc... which will have to be approved by the NOCs. World Skate will support them by providing the information needed to access these funds.

<u>Gender equality</u> is an important complementarity resource, which needs to be further developed. The same applies to the Paralympic project headed by Josh Friedberg, who will be putting together a team to work on this fantastic project.

<u>Facilities</u>: ahead of Tokyo a brochure was developed and sent out to all Olympic Committees, Sports Ministries, and cities with a population over 100,000. The director of the Facilities Department is Jerry



Bekkers. Following the guidelines given in the brochure, means avoiding building skateparks that fail to comply with World Skate regulations and as a result are not suitable for our athletes.

Building World Skate certified skateparks can also support the local federation through the distribution of profits.

<u>Election day</u>: it's a historic day marking the election of all World Skate vice presidents (Continental Presidents). The President emphasizes how strongly interconnected the work of the various continents is. The International Technical Commissions will be made up of the representatives of all Continents for each discipline, something that has never happened before.

<u>Single fee</u>: soon we will be voting a new fee that will make it easier to manage the disciplines in the various Federations. There will no longer be two separate fees, namely a continental fee and an international fee, but rather once single fee that will have to be paid to World Skate to cover the governance of all disciplines. These funds will be made available to all the continents. World Skate will have the mandate to decide over the projects developed by the different Continents, but the work will be done as if it were just one single company.

<u>INFINITY</u>: it's a platform that implies a major innovation for World Skate from the point of view of information sharing and operations. A video conference, supported by World Skate technical staff, will soon be organized with a view to providing detailed explanation about the platform.

<u>Marketing</u>: Aracu points out that in the past not much has been done in this field. We should take inspirations from the key messages of the IOC. The marketing development strategy will build on these foundations also thanks to William Saxon Mills who joined World Skate and will be available to anyone who wishes to submit projects.

Our disciplines have to be renewed. As of next year, summits will be organized for each discipline to talk about the future and the innovation of those disciplines that are lagging behind.

From a technical standpoint, the disciplines have grown. However, this is not enough. We have to celebrate events in the world's most iconic places, in the squares and on the streets of the world's largest cities.

Furthermore, World Skate will work to have more Olympic disciplines. At the 2018 Youth Olympic Games held in Buenos Aires, there was Speed, and now we have to work towards Los Angeles 2028, Dakar 2026, and Brisbane 2030. As for Brisbane, Vice President Karen Doyle will have to work hard with the support of the National Olympic Committee chaired by John Coats who was very pleased with her candidacy as First Vice President of World Skate.

For the first time, a contract has been signed with MediaPro, one of the world's leading companies in the distribution of TV rights and sponsorship. With them, World Skate is organizing an international skateboarding tour in the most iconic locations of the world's largest cities.

The World Skate Urban Series project is also being carried out. This is a World Cup with Roller Marathon, Scootering, and Roller Freestyle and Inline Freestyle performances. Along with these events, we should also organize something captivating, such as showcases for children, to give them the opportunity to try the sport they love before the actual event.



<u>E-Sports</u>: Another goal for World Skate is E-Sports, as they record very high figures. We have to work so that all our disciplines can have an E-Sports World Championship.

<u>E-commerce</u>: E-commerce could also be a new and interesting opportunity for World Skate to sell products with its own brand.

Finally, Aracu stresses the importance of teamwork for the success and further development of World Skate.

The Secretary General Roberto Marotta takes the floor and says that emotions prevented the President from saying a few words in memory of Laura Morandi, the late Vice Secretary General, who passed away at the beginning of this year and to whom we are all invited to dedicate a loving thought.

8. ELECTIONS

The Secretary General Roberto Marotta informs the Assembly that Sabatino Aracu is the only candidate for the Presidency of World Skate and gives the floor to Eduardo Musa, delegate of Brazil, who asked to take the floor.

The delegate of Brazil proposes that the Congress elect President and Vice President by acclamation. Given that there are no objections, Sabatino Aracu is elected by acclamation President of World Skate for the four-year period 2020-2024, together with the First Vice President Karen Doyle.

Aracu thanks everybody for trusting him and assures the delegates that together we will grow, because World Skate is a great team, but only by being united can we achieve great things.

Marotta takes the floor and introduces the candidates for the Presidency of the Continental Areas who will also act as Vice Presidents of World Skate, starting with Thomas Cai who is the only candidate for World Skate Asia.

THOMAS CAI (Asia) greets the Assembly and introduces himself by saying that he manages a company which specializes in sports, athletes' management, and event organization. He is also a member of the Chinese Olympic Committee and was elected Secretary General of World Skate Asia in 2017 on Liu Guoyong's recommendation. Over the last three years, his team has organized a series of international skateboarding events, such as the 2018 Park Skateboarding Championships and the 2019 International Skateboarding Open. He has built many state-of-the-art skateparks in China and more will be built in the future. Kim Young Soon, the candidate for the Vice Presidency of World Skate Asia, is honorary president of the Roller Skating Association of South Korea, is experienced, and has good relations with political representatives in Seoul as well as with the President of the Korea Roller Sports Federation.

Thomas Cai goes on to say that together with Kim, they want to create a professional team and headquarters in Asia to: add new members to World Skate besides the 23 already existing countries; create more training opportunities for referees and coaches; develop sports such as Artistic Skating and Rink Hockey; invest in the creation of high-level skateparks; organize multi-sports events, as well as events in the 2022 and 2026 editions of the Asian Games; create a certification system for skateboarding equipment; and increase the commitment with high-quality partners. Thomas Cai ends his speech by inviting everyone to foster a long and fruitful collaboration.

Marotta gives the floor to Luis Seníca, candidate for World Skate Europe.



LUIS SENÍCA (Europe) takes the floor and states that the greatest challenge is to bring roller sports back to where they were before the Covid-19 pandemic, and to find a socially responsible working model as well as good solutions for the various disciplines at different levels. More and more athletes have to be encouraged to practice roller sports and it is therefore necessary to increase the number of Federations, make the competitions more attractive, and help managers to grow. Communication and action will be pivotal.

Marotta gives the floor to Alberto Herrera, candidate for World Skate America.

ALBERTO HERRERA (America) greets everyone and presents his project. The American continent has been working for years to support roller sports. Furthermore, it has great potential when it comes to these sports and great enthusiasm to bring forward the development of the largest possible number of disciplines. A working plan has been developed with medium- and long-term goals based on programmatic pillars that can give prominence to all the protagonists of the different sports, namely referees, judges, coaches, etc... Managers have to be competent, so as to lead the athletes of the Pan-American Continent towards even better results. In America there are many events at Olympic level, and the goal is to encourage more athletes to participate so that all the disciplines can be part of this Olympic path. It is necessary to work and to keep growing by investing in sports training academies. That is why appropriate communication strategies have to be put in place so that the world can recognize the great potential of these sports.

Marotta gives the floor to Lorena Veiluva, candidate for World Skate America.

LORENA VEILUVA (America): As the representative of the Confederación Paraguaya de Patinaje, Lorena Veiluva thanks everyone and says that she is proud to submit her candidacy for the American continent. She has expertise in the management of companies and sports organizations, also in the field of skating and of the Paraguayan Olympic Committee. In the Continent there is a need for more inclusion at organizational level. This can be achieved by building a team that includes all the American countries with members of the national federations. This team will have to work on communication, respecting all the federations and listening to each and every member, so that skating in America can continue to grow. There is a need to foster dialogue to strengthen the disciplines. This can be done by creating dynamic working groups that help all disciplines and Federations to develop and grow. We want to be part of the Olympic world, with all the responsibilities that this entails, and for that we need to train highly skilled managers and coaches.

Lorena Veiluva ends her speech asking everyone for their vote of confidence to carry out this mission.

Marotta gives the floor to Nathanael Koty, candidate for World Skate Africa.

NATHANAEL KOTY (Africa): Nathanael Koty expresses his gratitude and appreciation for the work done by all those who represent the African continent. Over the last four years, huge efforts have been made to foster the growth of roller sports and Nathanael Koty wishes to assure everyone that roller sports in Africa will continue to progress.

Marotta gives the floor to Awa Fall, candidate for World Skate Africa.

AWA FALL (Africa): Awa Fall asks the attendees to observe a moment of silence to remember the late Laura Morandi, who was for her a great source of inspiration.



Awa Fall would like to present the program for Africa. She wishes, first and foremost, for a more united continent, and wants to build her work on this. Senegal was World Champion in 2017 in China and in 2019 in Spain. Africa has many hidden talents; therefore, coaches have to be trained to help younger athletes to grow, and Africa has to prepare for Dakar 2026 and Paris 2024. Africa is ready to organize World Championships in countries such as Morocco, that has 25 skateparks, and South Africa. National Championships have to be organized in all the five subregions of the African continent.

Marotta takes the floor and reminds everyone that there are no candidates for Oceania as this continent does not have five affiliated federations, which is the minimum number to have a Presidency. However, for this continent a Commissioner will be appointed by World Skate.

VOTING

Marotta reminds everyone that there is only one candidate for Asia, namely Thomas Cai, who runs with Kim Young Soon as Vice President. Likewise, the only candidate for Europe is Luis Seníca who runs with Irmelin Otten as Vice President. The Secretary General asks that both candidates be elected by acclamation.

ASIA: Election by acclamation of Thomas Cai and Kim Young Soon.

EUROPE: Election by acclamation of Luis Seníca and Irmelin Otten.

Votes are cast for the Presidency of the American continent:

Alberto Herrera: 70 votesLorena Veiluva: 42 votesNon-voting countries: 14

Alberto Herrera is elected President with Marisol Castro (Ecuador) as Vice President.

Votes are then cast for the African continent:

Nathanael Koty: 52 votes

• Awa Fall: 23 votes

• Non-voting countries: 12

Nathanael Koty is elected President with Helen Illoh (Nigeria) as Vice President

9. RATIFICATION OF NEW FEDERATIONS

The Secretary General Roberto Marotta reminds the delegates that in the folder they have been given there is a list of Federations that have to be ratified, then reads the said list asking the delegates to express their vote by acclamation:

- Federación Boliviana de Patinaje
- Cambodia Skate Federation
- Skateboarding World Jamaica
- Luxembourg Skate Federation



- Myanmar Skate Association
- Federation Congolaise de Roller Sports
- Federação Nacional de Patinagem e Skate de Guiné-Bissau
- Gambia Skating Association
- Zambia Skate Association
- Skateboard Association of Barbados
- Skate Malta
- MKD Skate (North Macedonia)

All the Federations are ratified.

12. MISCELLANEOUS

Marotta points out that minor changes have been made to the wording of the By-Laws and asks the Congress to ratify these changes, provided there are no objections, following the amendments adopted by the Executive Board.

The changes are approved.

Single fee: Marotta moves on to the ratification of the decision made by the Executive Board concerning the amount of the affiliation fee, which will be one single fee for both World Skate and the individual continents. Said fee will be cashed in by World Skate, then transferred in its entirety to the relevant continental federation. The proposed single fee, which will cover the administrative costs of all the disciplines that the federations wish to govern, is \$1,000/year. This sum is undoubtedly lower than the amount paid so far, which included the fee paid to World Skate and the fee owed to the single continental areas.

Since there are no objections, the single fee shall become effective as of January 1, 2022.

Unanimous vote: The single fee is approved.

Marotta gives the floor to President Sabatino Aracu for the appointment of the honorary member.

Aracu reminds the delegates that in Barcelona the decision was made that in exceptional circumstances honorary members could be elected and asks that Fernando Claro be appointed.

The appointment is accepted by acclamation.

Marotta presents a video by MediaPro in which Eugeni Sallent Garriga states that he is pleased with the partnership with World Skate and presents the company, which specializes in the production, promotion, and distribution of sporting events and content. The company has offices in more than 55 countries all over the world, with over 7,000 professionals. A few months ago, at the Italian headquarters, negotiations started to increase the visibility of skateboarding at international level.

Marotta takes the floor to present the 2022 World Skate Games and gives the floor to Daniel Ventura, president of the Confederación Argentina de Patín.

Ventura takes the floor and highlights the great work that is being done to make this dream come true, also thanks to the encouragement of President Aracu. This project can count on the support of the Government, the Olympic Committee, and the Confederación Argentina de Patín. The Government is



endorsing the organization of the Games and the chairman of the Organizing Committee is the Governor of San Juan, the sports capital of Argentina. There is also Mario Moccia, president of the Argentine Olympic Committee, who will direct the Games. He loves roller sports and appreciates what the World Skate Games represent. The chairman of the Organizing Committee, Sergio Uñac, was unable to attend the Congress, but sent a message pointing out that there are great expectations, both in San Juan and Buenos Aires, for the success of these Games. A great team is working tirelessly for the celebration of this World Skate event in Argentina.

Ventura takes the floor to present a video message by Mario Moccia, in which the president of the National Olympic Committee points out that a lot is being done together with the administrations and the government to ensure the success of this event and asks permission to play the promotional video.

Moccia gives a detailed description of the event that will involve 13 disciplines, 80 countries, and over 7,000 athletes. The opening ceremony will be held on the Avenida 9 de Julio, and the competitions of the different disciplines will take place in Buenos Aires, Vicente Lopez, and in the Province of San Juan.

Martina Giani, director of the event, takes the floor and shares her e-mail address, inviting everyone to get in contact with her for any travel and accommodation requirements.

Aracu thanks Mario Moccia for accepting to lead the organization of the event, in spite of him being the president of an Olympic committee.

Marotta takes the floor to give some additional information and invites President Aracu to close the Congress.

Aracu takes the floor and thanks all the delegates, then invites everyone on stage to take a group photo. World Skate has ambitious projects, and we will need time to carry them all out, but with patience, perseverance, and above all, unity, we will reach all our goals.

The Congress ends at 3.30 pm.

Roberto Marotta Secretary General Sabatino Aracu President

