



MINUTES

Extraordinary World Skate Executive Board Meeting Conference call 15th June 2022

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

• Sabatino Aracu	President
• Roberto Marotta	Secretary General
• Doris Gentile	Vice Secretary General
• Karen Doyle	Firs Vice President and Commissioner Oceania
• Luís Senica	Vice President and President World Skate Europe
• Alberto Herrera Ayala	Vice President and President of World Skate America
• Thomas Cai	Vice President and President of World Skate Asia
• Nathanël Koty	Vice President and President of World Skate Africa
• Gary Ream	Chairman Skateboarding Technical Commission
• Nicola Genchi	Chairman Artistic Skating Technical Commission
• Andrea Fonzari	Chairman Inline Hockey Tehcnical Commission
• Jorge Roldan	Chairman Speed Skating Technical Commission
• Carmelo Paniagua	Chairman Rink Hockey Technical Commission
• Sigfried Zistler	Chairman Alpine Technical Commission
• Weifeng Gu	Chairman Inline Freestyle Technical Commission
• Olivier Pascal	Chairman Roller Freestyle Technical Commission
• Fernando Regueiro	Chairman Roller Derby technical Commission
• Helmeri Pirinen	Chairman Scootering Technical Commission
• Patricia Wallace	Chair Medical Commission

GUESTS

• Josh Friedberg	Chairman of the World Skate Paralympic Commission
• Ivan Paduano	E-sport director

WORLD SKATE MANAGER & STAFF

AGENDA

1. Opening by World Skate President
2. Approval of the minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting
3. Updates from the IOC
4. World Skate status within ASOIF
5. Beginning of the Olympic Qualification
6. Application to include new disciplines in Los Angeles 2028
7. Events Calendar
8. Adaptive Skateboarding World Championships
9. 2022 World Skate Congress in Argentina
10. Election of Athletes' Representatives
11. World Skate Games in Argentina
12. Approval of World Skate's 2021 financial statements
13. Reports by Continental Areas
14. E-sports
15. Appointments of Regional Directors (World Skate Statutes, Art. 19)
16. Updates on the process leading to the establishment of one single Governing Body per Country
17. Updates on Ukraine
18. Amendments to the current by-laws regarding World Skate Medical Commission
19. Miscellaneous

The meeting starts at 2.00 PM (CET)

1. Opening by World Skate President

President Aracu thanks everyone for attending what he defines as the first Executive Board that sees World Skate as Full Member of ASOIF, following the amendments to ASOIF bylaws approved by a large majority on June 8th, thus allowing World Skate to change its status within the Association.

He also extends his greetings and thanks to the staff and the interpreters, along with two distinguished guests - Josh Friedberg, Chair of World Skate Paralympic Commission, and Ivan Paduano, in charge of E-sports, a field that the IOC is strongly promoting.

Aracu then introduces two new staff members: Rieko Iwakata, who was in charge of Tokyo 2020 Skateboarding venue, and Lauro Netto, from Brazil, who was also present in Tokyo as Course Manager, and who will join Luca Basilico and the skateboarding staff.

He also announces that the new prestigious Rome Office, located in the city center, is ready. As a result, World Skate will vacate the office at the Italian Federation that hosted our IF for many years.

The IOC has offered World Skate financial support (the so-called "bridge") to get to Paris2024.

In the next few days, the Rome event will mark the beginning of the Olympic qualification. This is a difficult event to organize since it will take place at an iconic location - across from the Colosseum. An experience which we wish to replicate in other parts of the world. From the next few days onwards, the IOC will launch messages on social media highlighting that the Rome event is the first of the Olympic qualifier to Paris24.

Aracu gives the floor to Secretary General Roberto Marotta, who moves on to the second item on the agenda.



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2. Approval of the minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting

Marotta asks to vote on the minutes of the previous EB meeting.
The minutes are unanimously approved.

3. Updates from the IOC

The floor goes back to President Aracu: the IOC has allocated World Skate \$2.8 million up to 2024. It is not a large amount but this is also due to the fact that the IOC intends to directly organize the Olympic qualifier events in the last four months of 2024, granting \$2 million for each event. Since it is 3 events, World Skate will get \$ 6 million.

4. World Skate status within ASOIF

Marotta takes the floor to inform the participants that World Skate is now included in the official list of Olympic Sports, and with Paris 2024 it will get to share in the revenue generated by the television rights. For the Los Angeles 2028, there is a chance to include other disciplines as well.

5. Beginning of the Olympic Qualification

Aracu takes the floor to list out the events that, besides Rome, will be part of the Olympic Qualification: only 2 events this year, Rome and the World Championships in Rio de Janeiro (Street and Park) and next year a Pro Tour with 6 stops of Street and 6 stops of Park. The Olympic Channel and NBC will broadcast these events, and through Media Pro it may be possible that other TV networks will show an interest in doing the same.

6. Application to include new disciplines in Los Angeles 2028

A month and a half ago, the IOC asked World Skate, through a questionnaire, about the possibility of including new disciplines in the program of Los Angeles 2028. As an Olympic Federation, World Skate can suggest some disciplines meeting the following requirements:

- a. *Sustainable discipline*: World Skate launched a new *action sport* which is scootering, whose facility costs are equal to zero, because this discipline can use both skateboarding and BMX parks. The Street option will be discussed at a later stage but in that case as well World Skate facilities would be used resulting in no cost for the organizers.
- b. *Mass discipline*: it was decided to propose speed with the roller marathon. Since Paris 2024 will hold an *open athletics marathon*, to be run by professional and non-professional athletes, it would be a great success if a roller marathon, also open to everyone, were to be organized in Los Angeles, and held on the same course as the athletics marathon.

7. Events Calendar

Secretary General Roberto Marotta refers to the calendar that is now shared on the screen.
The calendar is designed for multi-sport events (Games) to which World Skate is eligible, then World Championships of all disciplines, World Cups and Continental Championships. Efforts will be made to make it easier to read by organizing it by discipline.
Marotta invites everyone to foster the organization of next year's events.



Aracu takes the floor to say that everyone is interested in the continental championships and that the venues for the 2024 championships should already be known in order to secure an outstanding organizational level.

Carmelo Paniagua asks for the floor to highlight the need to finalize the calendar sooner; in fact one should already be thinking about 2023 and 2024; many countries are asking what events are scheduled and where they will be held.

Aracu reiterates that World Skate is already working on 2024, the year of the Federation's centennial anniversary that must be celebrated properly, with the establishment of a committee in charge of planning targeted events for the anniversary; Montreux, the place where the Federation was born with rink hockey, will certainly be a priority. Moreover, work is under way to identify a suitable venue for the 2024 World Skate Games. The Games will be held right after the Paris Olympics and must be of a high level; Aracu concludes by inviting everyone to report any interest the individual countries may have in organizing such events.

8. Adaptive Skateboarding World Championships

Aracu takes the floor to point out that a world championship should be organized in order to be eligible to enter the Paralympics; therefore, it is necessary to support those who want to do something.

Aracu then gives the floor to Josh Friedberg.

Josh reports that they are moving forward with the plans for the World Championship to be held in California on November 14 after the World Skate Games and that he is waiting to know what the venue will be. Josh believes there will have to be an online qualification with 8 skaters per gender and discipline and then in-person finals. Efforts will also be made to cover travel expenses for the finalists. Gary Ream takes the floor and confirms that they are working to define the California venue for November 14, the set date. Contacts have been made with available sponsors, as financial resources are needed. Moreover it is essential that the facilities characteristics be made known. The Paralympic Games and skateboarding are very close to one another and they enjoy the participation of excellent athletes.

Aracu thanks Gary for his words: this is an opportunity for World Skate to set in motion a Paralympic movement that would find no match in any other sport.

Karen Doyle asks for the floor and inquires whether the elections for the adaptive discipline have been decided and the date set. This would allow federations to organize themselves. Josh replies that he has a schedule already, which he hopes to communicate very soon.

9. 2022 World Skate Congress in Argentina

The Congress is scheduled to take place in Buenos Aires on October 30. The Opening Ceremony of the World Skate Games is scheduled for the 29th in the evening and on the same day the Executive Board shall be summoned in person.

No objections are raised thus the date is approved.

10. Election of Athletes' Representatives

Secretary General Roberto Marotta explains how World Skate has tried every year to renew the composition of the Athletes Commission of all 11 disciplines. This year each discipline will elect a man and a woman. They will be elected by the athletes who participated in the last World Championships. Every discipline will elect a man and a woman who will make up the Athletes Commission, which in turn will elect a representative to be an official member of the EB, in accordance with the provisions in the



Statutes. All affiliated Federations and athletes who participated in the World Championships will be provided with more detailed information.

11. World Skate Games in Argentina

President Aracu takes the floor to point out that there had been some difficulties regarding Argentina. Since the event will be held in 3 cities, contacts with the country's sports and political authorities of the 3 local authorities are under way.

The calendar is shown and information is given as to where the different disciplines will be held. The sanctioning fee has been paid in full.

12. Approval of World Skate's 2021 financial statements

Marotta takes the floor and illustrates the financial statements.

It is a consistent financial statement thanks to the IOC contribution and the event fees.

The total revenue is US\$3,581,567 while total expenditure amounts to US\$4,915,726 of which the largest item is personnel that is now close to thirty units. There is a minus of US\$1,334,159, but since we have a cash availability of US\$3,681,579 as of December 31, the financial statements show assets amounting to US\$2,368,774.

Marotta reminds everyone that the World Skate financial statements are based on a cash accounting and not on an accrual accounting.

Aracu takes the floor to highlight that he presented these financial statements to the IOC remarking that there were liabilities due to the preparation of the Olympic Games and the desire to have a federation of which we could all be proud. World Skate shall not risk to be in a situation of default, therefore the IOC will have to help with its financial support in the future.

Marotta asks to vote on the financial statements, that are approved unanimously.

13. Reports by Continental Areas

LUIS SENICA President of World Skate EUROPE takes the floor and reports that he has finalized the European technical commissions, but he is still experiencing some difficulties with the Roller Derby. He has handed the planning of the European competitions over to World Skate and the management of the whole year has been developed accordingly; further to this a new financial policy has become operational and a website has been created. It will become an important communication tool along with specific social networks; events are now in the making according to specific projects.

NATHANAEL KOTY takes the floor, thanking EB members, Aracu and the staff for their work in developing the sports and reminding them that from 9/28 to 2/10 Cairo will host the World Championships in five disciplines and that from December 8 to 11 the skateboarding events will take place. As many as 23 countries have confirmed their participation, which is proof of World Skate AFRICA's great efforts and commitment. Koty invites Aracu to be in attendance.

KAREN DOYLE takes the floor and says she is pleased to report that as of today OCEANIA has a new federation, namely the Fiji Islands; at first it will be for skateboarding, but then it will certainly include scootering and roller derby. The Australian government is also working with the Solomon Islands to establish a sports institute and create 10 federations including one for skateboarding; this will bring a fourth federation to the Continent. Work with the Artistic Commission is already ongoing to organize the championships in New Zealand in September.

ALBERTO HERRERA takes the floor and reports on the administrative and sports development of the PANAMERICAN Continent; all federations have been supported financially and delegations helped to



WORLD
SKATE

participate in events thanks also to a fully functioning administrative team. The website is a key element for communication as well as an executive team that liaise constantly with the presidents of the various federations. Following World Skate's suggestions, fundamental changes have been made in the technical commissions of each discipline: the Alpine and Roller Derby Commissions are not there yet. Work is now underway. The calendar for this year's PanAmerican events that will take place in September for the various disciplines has been further developed: Artistic to Cancon, Running for all categories starting with the youngest up to the Seniors, and we are working with Lima and also Bogota for roller freestyle, inline freestyle, alpine downhill and scootering. Efforts are being made to take the road marathon to different countries. The Federation's training activity for technicians, coaches, judges etc. is continuing.

THOMAS CAI takes the floor to report that the ASIAN Continent has already established six technical commissions where the representatives of the various disciplines sit; it is a growth process which highlights the importance of supporting and developing the principles of *gender equality* in all disciplines. It has been decided to improve information dissemination. A website was created and will be updated soon. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the Asian Games will be postponed to 2023.

Carmelo Paniagua comments about the work being carried out in these continents: It's great work but in his capacity of Chairman of Rink Hockey, he invites the Continental Presidents to provide information about the international events taking place in their continents because they are still events under the aegis of World Skate. At present we learn about the holding of events which are not communicated by the technical commissions. As to the South American games held in San Juan and Rink Hockey in particular, no information was available about either the referees or the athletes. Paniagua then urges for this kind of information to be provided and asks Koty to forward the Rink Hockey Information since the member of the Technical Commission who represents Africa has never attended any of the Commission's meeting.

Alberto Herrera takes the floor and while thanking Paniagua for his words, he wishes to clarify that every discipline chairman of every continent is now part of the world commission: Martinazzo is the interlocutor for Rink Hockey, but in any case all information will be sent to World Skate in a timely manner. As for the South American Games, they were scheduled without coordination with World Skate America; hopefully this will not happen again.

Efforts are being made to ensure that continental events organized by the PanAmerican Continent will be communicated to World Skate

President Aracu thanks all the Continents for the excellent work that is being done with a structure which is still weak. Therefore it is fundamental that information is correctly disseminated also through the Continental Discipline Chairmen who can best contribute secure this information process and as a result their participation in the work of the commissions is of the essence.

About the South American issue, Aracu recalls that ODESUR is an organization that for years at end has been organizing events independently. However, this will no longer be accepted as Herrera also pointed out.

The President concludes by thanking Karen Doyle for her work on a Continent that can grow through small Federations that are slowly developing.

14. E-sports

While introducing this topic, President Aracu emphasizes how e-sports are bound to play a remarkable role in the growth of World Skate and asks Ivan Paduano to give an overview of e-sports.

Paduano takes the floor and shares the screen to report on the millions of users involved in these sports, the millions of dollars that these sports' champions gain, the revenue that e-sports generate amounting to 1.65 billion. Paduano goes on to talk about the difference between e-sports and virtual sports: virtual



sports include a physical performance while e-sports are totally controlled by the pad, keyboard, or mouse. World Skate is among the very first federations to be interested in this field, and there are contacts with Rogue Games and Easy day Studios with whom important negotiations have begun. There are contacts also with MGO as well to develop a scooter-themed game and contacts with EA Vancouver and Ubisoft.

The events in which World Skate would like to participate are continental qualification, a world tournament, and an OVS in Singapore in 2023 for which the first selection has already been passed. Paduano then refers to a set of guidelines that he will circulate to everyone.

Games are to be tested for a period of three months, regulations are to be developed, and finals are to be in person.

Aracu thanks Ivan because all the recommendations go in this direction; millions of people follow these sports and it will be a big economic resource for World Skate: Over 50% percent of FIFA's revenue comes from E-sports.

15. Appointments of Regional Directors (World Skate Statutes, Art. 19)

President Aracu believes that World Skate should be in control of the events involving its disciplines across the world because complaints such as the ones regarding Odesur-organized events are not new; areas that already have multi-games competitions such as the Pan American area or the Mediterranean area could come into conflict with World Skate over the management of sports; there is also Southeast Asia where games are to be held and where CIS (former Soviet countries) games as well should have been held, but at this time it is not appropriate to make decisions affecting that area. Aracu would therefore like to formalize the appointment of the following heads of the areas:

Moacyr Neuenschwander for South America

Francesco Purrumuto for the Mediterranean Area

Eddie Chua for Southeast Asia

Marotta asks if there is anyone against these appointments, which are then unanimously accepted.

16. Updates on the process leading to the establishment of one single Governing Body per Country

Marotta recalls that World Skate has been fighting to have one federation per country for many years; there are 11 disciplines and there cannot be 11 federations. World Skate no longer recognizes new federations but the problem of the ones that already exist must be addressed. These federations were asked to meet so to come to an agreement, but it has not always been an easy process especially if economic interests are involved; it was suggested to create a board including representatives from each federation, where the disciplines may maintain their sport and economic independence but with a single president and a single secretary general. Marotta asks all EB members to work to make this happen as soon as possible. The alternative is a decision by the EB about the Federations that are unable to settle the issue.

Aracu stresses that this is a critical issue because there are major realities such as the United States or Brazil and says he has talked to some important Olympic Committees that share World Skate's decision. Maximum autonomy should be left to the federations both legally and economically, but a solution should be found so to identify a single political representative to deal with the Olympic Committee and World Skate. Patience is needed and, if necessary, the deadline should be pushed forward to the end of September.



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SKATE

17. Updates on Ukraine

Aracu takes the floor to point out that World Skate did what was recommended by the IOC, although the world of sports should be impacted by wars. Keeping Russian and Belarusian athletes out of all competitions is a difficult choice, and the day may come when they will sue World Skate for not allowing them to participate in the Olympic qualification. If this were to happen, TAS will have the final say.

18. Amendments to the current by-laws regarding World Skate Medical Commission

Minor amendments to the By-Laws: the number of members of the commission is increased from 3 to 5 MDs. With no votes against, Marotta declares this to be unanimous approved.

19. Miscellaneous

- Approval of Skateboarding Competition Regulations: given the positive opinion issued by the technical commission, the regulations, which are put to the vote, are unanimously approved.
- Track certification regulations: World Skate facilities must be sustainable. There is a growing number of movements that in Paris are against the construction of facilities that then have to be dismantled; World Skate is able to work with large companies that can make products similar to concrete, efforts will have to be made to understand whether a track can be built in Paris, which can later be dismantled and reassembled elsewhere. It is fundamental for the athletes to skate in the best possible conditions, but for World Skate Paris has to set the record of the most followed sport. This rule tells us that the facility can be built of concrete or concrete-like products subject to the approval of the international federation.

Marotta puts this technical amendment to a vote. It is unanimously approved

- Fiji Islands Federation affiliation: approved unanimously

- New World Skate continental logo: Marotta shows the new proposals inviting continental presidents to voice their opinions. All presidents find it beautiful and raise no objection to it.

President Aracu closes the meeting by saying how important it is to be united and work together supporting each other, the continents, the chairmen, who are doing a great job; the president reminds that summits will be held to discuss the modernization of some disciplines.

The meeting ends at 5:10 p.m.



Roberto Marotta
Secretary General



Sabatino Aracu
President