



Extraordinary Executive Board Meeting Conference Call 27th August 2022

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| • | Sabatino Aracu | President |
| • | Roberto Marotta | Secretary General |
| • | Doris Gentile | Vice Secretary General |
| • | Karen Doyle | First 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 |
| • | Gary Ream | Chairman Skateboarding Technical Commission |
| • | Nicola Genchi | Chairman Artistic Skating Technical Commission |
| • | Andrea Fonzari | Chairman Inline Hockey Technical 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 Scooter Technical Commission |
| • | Patricia Wallace | Chair Medical Commission |

World Skate Manager and Staff

AGENDA

1. Opening by World Skate President
2. Approval of the minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting
3. Proposal of amendments to the World Skate Statutes to be brought before the World Skate Congress for approval
4. Miscellaneous

The meeting starts at 14.10

Opening by World Skate President

President Sabatino Aracu thanks the attendees for taking part in this extraordinary meeting which follows the meeting held on June 15.

In June, WSK organised the first Olympic qualification event, advertised and recognised also by the IOC. An extraordinary event that took place in Rome, across from the Colosseum. The event has been followed by the Olympic Channel and has been a success.

Aracu goes on to stress that World Skate is a complex Federation with many sports, which in turn embrace several disciplines, hence the need for more modern and up-to-date Statutes. Therefore, small amendments will be made. Said amendments will be analysed one by one.

Before moving on to this analysis, President Aracu reports on the issues with Argentina, which put the World Skate Games at risk and that have been solved thanks to the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of Argentina and a letter by Pope Francis who strongly spoke in favour of this important event that will take place in his Country. We will organise great WSG, despite the economic crisis that Argentina is experiencing. We will be careful about expenses, but the event will be up to World Skate standards. Finally, President Aracu points out another issue related to the Skateboarding World Championships that are supposed to take place in Rio de Janeiro. This item will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Approval of the minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting

The Secretary General Roberto Marotta takes the floor to submit the minutes of the previous meeting to approval.

Votes are cast and the minutes are unanimously approved.

Proposal of amendments to the World Skate Statutes to be brought before the World Skate Congress for approval

President Aracu takes the floor and tells the attendees that the incorporation of new disciplines into World Skate, such as scootering, creates the need for some changes.

Art.1 Simplification of the names of the disciplines: A discipline such as Inline Speed Skating, for example, will be just Speed.

We have to create a sort of sports cluster within which commissions have also to be set up.

A discipline such as Downhill embraces all downhill sports, including Downhill Skateboarding and Luge, and will require specialists of the different sectors. But also Alpine, which will be named Slalom so as not to give it a ski-related name. The Commissions will have to include these professionals.

Freestyle, for example, includes classic and aggressive freestyle, but these are two sides of the same discipline, and under the term Freestyle there will be two different Commissions.

Hence, the new list of World Skate sports will be as follows: Skateboarding, Speed, Artistic, Inline Hockey, Rink Hockey, Downhill, Freestyle, Roller Derby, and Scootering.

Karen Doyle takes the floor and says that the proposals made for all the specialties are correct, and therefore agrees with the proposed changes.



President Aracu stresses once again the importance of having Chairs that represent the sports within the Executive Board, and also technical experts within each sport managing the various disciplines that can be incorporated directly into the By Laws without the need to involve the Congress every time.

The Secretary General Roberto Marotta also stresses this need. Within the 9 sports, there will be different disciplines with their own technical commission. All the specifics will be explained in detail in the By Laws. The list will also include Virtual Sports and Electric Sports since specialties with electric means may be developed and we have to try and avoid that other Federations can take action to govern said disciplines.

According to Luis Senica, President of World Skate Europe, the important thing is to create optimal operating conditions so that the changes are easy for the athletes, and everybody understands what is going on.

Sigfried Zistler also agrees with the proposal to change Downhill and Alpine, but the sub-commissions need the support of the Sports Department because there are significant differences.

Marotta reminds everyone that many changes are purely lexical.

Point 5: The headquarters are in Lausanne and the changes have been requested by the canton of Vaud.

The Vice Secretary General Doris Gentile points out that the World Skate headquarters may be transferred to a different location prior approval of the EB. However, leaving Lausanne means that all the assets would have to be donated to a Swiss non-profit association.

President Aracu says that WSK offices will be set up in the different continents, but the headquarters will stay in Lausanne as there is no reason to move.

ART.3.6.: Marotta underlines that, in accordance with the Olympic Charter, it will be World Skate in its capacity as International Federation that decides which Federation has to be recognised, and the NOC and the Ministry of Sports of the Country concerned will recognise that Federation accordingly.

It has also been added that any amendments to the Statutes have to be submitted to the EB 70 days in advance so as to have the time to convene the EB meeting and discuss the amendments.

The term Chairman has been replaced by the term Chair.

Art. 8.17: President Aracu takes the floor to make a few remarks about this article. Since World Skate enjoys tax benefits in the canton of Vaud, we have to write that the members of the EB provide their service on a voluntary basis. However, this topic has been discussed and considering the time that each member dedicates to World Skate, we could find a form of *per diem* reimbursement that will avoid speculations while ensuring appropriate compensations.

All the officials will be renewed on the election day, except for the athletes' representatives who will be elected during the relevant world championships. The person elected as president will take part in the Executive Board.

It may happen that no candidate has support letters. In this case, the Federations will choose a candidate within 24 hours before the date set for the election. Continental Areas have been created that can have economic independence, but still be under the control of WSK. If necessary, it will be possible to create important sub-continental areas; however, these will have to be approved by the EB.

Art. 21: Merging of the Federations in one single entity. Marotta stresses the provisions set forth in the article. In those Countries where in the past World Skate recognised more than one Federation, all the Federations shall merge into one. This way the Federations would have more political power, a larger number of athletes, and hence more weight within their Olympic Committee. This change has already been requested several times, and the deadline to complete the merging is set on 31/12/2023. Should this not occur, the Executive Board will decide which Federation is the more apt to manage all the disciplines in the Country concerned.

Marotta goes on to say that he understands the difficulty in following the amendments to the Statutes via video conference, but the Secretariat will welcome any suggestions, and everybody will receive a copy of the amended Statutes.

Pat Wallace congratulates World Skate for these amendments which she believes are a great improvement.

The Secretary General Roberto Marotta puts the amendments to a vote. Unanimously approved.

Miscellaneous

President Aracu reports on the organisation of the Park and Street Skateboarding World Championships in Rio de Janeiro with which World Skate is having many problems.

The fee requested by World Skate also includes the prize money that World Skate confers to the athletes. Currently there are no guarantees that the organisers will pay.

World Skate lawyers clearly told the organisers that if they do not comply with the obligations they undertook, they will not be able to hold the world championships. Therefore, President Aracu asks the EB for a resolution, to be sent to Brazil, wherein the organisers are given a deadline to comply with their obligations.

Luca Basilico takes the floor and says that many compromises have been made to meet the organisers halfway and over the last week the prize money, which is around 400,000\$, has been largely discussed. Luca Basilico agrees with President Aracu. It has been clearly stated that without the advance payment within the deadline set, World Skate will have the right to decide whether to cancel the games in Rio. We have tried to be very accommodating, yet the situation was constantly changing. The reason they gave is that Brazil is subject to a 50% fee on international transfers, which the Federation does not want to pay.

President Aracu says that he feels fooled and prefers to cancel the world championships and hold them somewhere else at the end of the year.

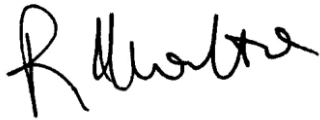
Karen Doyle asks whether a country or promoter that wants to organise an event has to pay in advance and Aracu says that that is right, and that Brazil should have paid 45 days prior.



Marotta puts the President's proposal on how to proceed to a vote.
Unanimously approved.

President Aracu ends the meeting stressing the importance of a short yet significant EB meeting, and thanks everyone for their trust.

The meeting ends at 15.20.



Roberto Marotta
Secretary General



Sabatino Aracu
President



WORLD
SKATE