



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE de ROLLER SPORTS

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**FIRS CENTRAL COMMITTEE**  
Nelva Hotel, Murcia (Spain)  
December 1, 2006 at 09h00

**Presences**

Hon. Sabatino Aracu	FIRS President
Vlerie Leftwich	FIRS 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Fernando Claro	FIRS Vice President (Europe)
Simon Wilkins	FIRS Vice President (Oceania)
Nabih El-Alkamy	FIRS Vice President (Africa)
Qin Jihong	FIRS Vice President (Asia – proxy from Mr Guo Min)
George Pickard	CIRILH President
James Pollard	CIPA President
Harro Strucksberg	CIRH President
Roberto Marotta	CIC President and FIRS Secretary General

Justified absent: Carlos Orlando Ferreira

FIRS Secretariat staff: Minelli, Morandi, Nadin

Interpreters: Rex Xin and Olga Soto.

Guests: Carmelo Paniagua

**Agenda:**

- 1- President's communication
2. Approval of minutes of meetings of CC- Rome, November 2005.
3. FIRS 2005 financial consolidated Report- 2006 and 2007 Budgets.
4. Situation of FIRS unpaid memberships
5. African Confederation
6. Ratification of venues next World Championships
7. Rollersports.tv
8. FIRS website
9. Next meeting of Central Committee
10. Olympic goal
11. Miscellaneous

**1. President's Communication**

President Aracu welcomes all present members, gives the RFEP President a special thanks for the hospitality, informs that the Vice President Ferreira shall not attend the meeting due to visa related problems.

Aracu: FIRS is the world governing body for rollersports, needing a continuous feedback about the work carried out in each continent, especially as concerns memberships. Member federations of the continental confederations shall automatically become FIRS members.

The FIRS balance has been prepared in total transparency by the FIRS auditor, Luis Alfonso Munoz, who shall not be able to attend the meeting due to visa problems. Hopefully in 2007 FIRS shall have more financial incomes.

As concerns the FIRS image, I remind you the creation of the Roller WEBTV, perfecting day by day. All nations are requested to support this media database sending to FIRS Secretariat videos and news. FIRS shall be the first International federation activating a webtv.

In these days Qatar is hosting the Asian Games. We need to contact the president in order to include rollersports there.

## **2. Approval of minutes of meetings of CC- Rome, November 2005.**

Approved unanimously.

## **3. FIRS 2005 financial consolidated Report- 2006 and 2007 Budgets.**

The Secretary General Dr. Marotta shows the consolidated balance and the provisional budget, underlining that FIRS has turned back to a clear and consolidated balance. He thanks the Colombian friend Munoz for drafting the balance in US Dollars, inviting all technical committees to use the same change in their balance sheets. It will be care of the FIRS Secretariat to prepare a draft balance sheet, as sample form for all the technical committees. Finally he invites the technical committees to search for new sponsors in the future.

He closes up by listing all financial problems coming from the former Oliveras management and resulted from the Catalunya question.

President Aracu underlines that FIHP and the Italian Government, are supporting FIRS because the presence itself of the FIRS seat in Italy is a prestigious fact.

A further effort must be taken in reducing the fixed costs and implementing new projects.

He wishes that in the next 5 years FIRS can achieve a financial autonomy and thus cease the request for affiliation taxes.

The report is unanimously approved.

## **4. Situation of FIRS unpaid memberships**

On this matter the FIRS Secretariat should keep a tighter contact with the technical committees, for an easier check of the payment of the membership fees, mostly when international events are drawing near.

## **5. African Confederation**

Marotta: everyone knows we're having some problems there, with a restricted number of federations practicing our sports, and mostly, not organizing any continental championship, in a word, there is no presence of the activities we'd like to see.

Continental Confederations must do their best for the promotion, we hereby require Africa to find solutions for the future and give its consent for a renewal of the Board of its Confederation and appointment of people working for us in the future. We have a list of members, yet we never saw them at our championships. They belong to nations deserting our competitions. In the list of federations: Tunisia, Sudan, Kenya, Nigeria, Camerun ( only requests for VISA for managers – we are not a travel agency), all of these nations never took part at any event.



Sud Africa: Ok for speed.

Mozambique Hockey, Egypt – a little bit of hockey and speed.

Lybia, nothing.

Morocco nothing.

Some of these federations are not even recognised by their Olympic Committees.

We can't go on like this, when I prepared my report for the IOC I just used my fancy as concerns the figures for Africa.

Nabih El-Alkhamy: I started back in 1992 with 3 countries, I have been President of the African Confed. until 1996. In 2000 I have been re-elected.

All nations are organising their National championships.

Marotta: I need the address list of these countries, so that a contact with their Olympic Committees can be started for a more closer assistance.

Aracu: we all love roller sports, in Africa there are a few federations. I want to hold a meeting in Africa and have a valid President there. You surely know I am the President of the 2009 Mediterranean Games, and many African countries are eligible for that event. Best solution would be a convocation for all African federations at an extraordinary meeting. If there is a political solution for keeping things like this, fine, otherwise new elections. This is constructive politics, not destructive.

FIRS shall summon this meeting.

Leftwich: I agree with every action FIRS intends to take for the promotion of rollersports in Africa.

Pickard: unfortunately it is not clear which federations are active in Africa.

Nabih El-Alkamy: proposes a Congresso at El Cairo.

Marotta: FIRS shall check all african federations and shall then summon a meeting.

Nabih El-Alkamy: approves.

Aracu: It will be a biennial Congress of the African Confederation in the presence of the FIRS CC. FIRS shall support the African confederation in the contacts with the national federations.

Nabih El Alkamy: reminds that the federations did not answer his convocation because they had no money for participating.

Pickard: FIRS is reaching for higher goals, the knowledge of these contacts would involve us more and more in the continental events. It is important for each African federation to have the support of its relevant National Olympic Committee, after all FIRS is the direct responsible for the organisation of these championships and for the Olympic recognition in each of these nations. We've got the act officially as this was not always done in the past and the IOC is very attentive on this. We've been trying for 15 years to get the African continent started, since there was no sensitive result I believe we should start it over again, we have this duty, as FIRS representative. We can count sofar on South Africa, Mozambique and Angola.

Claro: we need to find the right strategies and the right time to implement.

Aracu: I finally propose to summon an extraordinary meeting, choosing the seat of an Olympic Committee as guarantee of legitimacy.

#### **IFSA and MASTER GAMES ASSOCIATION INTRODUCTIONS TO CC MEETING**

The Secretary General Marotta informs about the visits of a representative of the International Freestyle Associations and of the International Master Games Association. Four of our disciplines are running under their organisation and we deem they should be under our control, as the IOC stated that FIRS is the governing body of all rollers sports. Free-style means slalom, followed by the International Inline-Stunt Association supported by potential sponsors. These are extreme sports. Marotta had a meeting with the president of the latter organisation last monday, they have 40 member nations and very good sponsors. We cannot let this chance slip away. We must organise these world championships and have them under our control yet subject of their technical regulations. We should take part in the future at Military Games and University Games. He points out that dealing with these characters he made it clear that FIRS is unable to give out finances yet we will control their activities and watch their compliance with the IOC and WADA guidelines.

**IFSA.** Next year we shall organise a world championship of free-style. Introduction of Mr. Carlos Flores, IFSA delegate, distributing to all presents a leaflet explaining the various disciplines and their history in the last 10 years. FIRS recognised free-style in its Central Committee meeting last novembre 2005, positioning this discipline under the CIC jurisdiction.

**MASTER GAMES ASSOCIATION,** Mr. Jens Holm. Shows the targets of the Master Games Association, the participation principles and the sports disciplines included at present in the programme. He also informs the committee about the next events at european and world level with a valuable multimedial presentation.

#### **6. Ratification of venues next World Championships**

Marotta  
Speed

2007	Cali, Colombia	August 17-25
2008	Gijon, Spagna	September 1st week
2009	Zurich, Switzerland	
2010	to be confirmed	

Marotta: We've hit a real record in participation this year in Korea – 50 national representatives, with your support this record can be beaten, if you just realise that one single athlete in representance of his country can make the difference and raise the number of participating countries.

Pollard  
Artistic

2007	Gold Coast, Australia	28 Oct. – Nov. 10
2008	Chinese Taipei	Nov. 16-28



2009	Freiburg, Germany	
2010	to be confirmed	
Strucksberg Rink-Hockey		
2007	Montreux, Svizzera	June 16-23
Under 20	Iquique, Chile	End November
2009	Spain, Argentina, or Italy	
Pickard Inline Hockey		
2007	Bilbao, Spain	July 1- 7
2008	Germany	
2009	to be confirmed	

Pickard underlines the fact that if world championships are not organised this automatically gives way to the Ice Federation for "stealing" the teams away. There was an agreement signed in Hannover between Ice and roller federations, which apparently has not been respected. If inline hockey championships are organised by the International Ice Hockey Federation and not by a private institution, we should then appeal to IOC, in Lausanne and make a claim.

Marotta asks Pickard to prepare a short report in order to present it to the IOC.

## **7. Rollersports.tv**

Aracu: roller tv shall be our official web tv, a special service offered to all roller fans.

I expect this feature to become a real hit in 3 years time. Here in Murcia, thanks to the agreement signed with the RFEP the tv service shall be produced with 5 telecameras. In the future all International TV networks shall be able to use these videos for their news reports.

## **ANTIDOPING**

Dr. Pat Wallace, Chairwoman of the FIRS Doping commission, talks about the whereabouts forms and the anti-doping tests as described in the agreement with WADA. WADA expects a financial support from our federation and this cannot happen today.

There is a programme of co-operation for small federation which shall be activated in 2007.

Dr. Wallace informs the committee about the procedural steps in positive cases for National federations and for the athletes. If a National federation fails to sanction within a 3 months term, FIRS is in charge of organising a hearing for the athlete.

## **8. FIRS website**

Luca Minelli, in charge for the FIRS website, gives the committee a show of the new features of the FIRS website.

## **9. Next meeting of Central Committee**

Aracu: next CC meeting shall be in Australia, in the occasion of the figure skating worlds. He asks Valerie hospitality for the Central Committee members.

Pollard informs that his committee had to pay a bill left by the Catalunyans in Fresno.

The CC meeting shall be celebrated on November 3rd. We're awaiting to receive the competition schedule of the figure worlds

## 10. Olympic goal

Aracu: we're working to get to the Asian, Panamerican, Mediterranean and Commonwealth Games. To all of these organisations we need to show the best impression of our sport.

Leftwich: asks what disciplines shall be included in the Mediterranean Games.

Aracu: speed only, all of North African countries can only participate with speed athletes. All African NOC shall receive a letter. FIRS shall send a coach in each of these countries for a basic preparation to a speed race on the road – only on straightaways - for young athletes, so that the technical requirements can be levelled on a levelled competition for all nations. 22 participating nations.

Paniagua: main goal for FIRS is becoming Olympic Sport, your task, as FIRS President is concentrating on a lobby action. I think that President and Secretary General should attend all COE and IOC meetings. Spain shall host in November 2007 the meeting of the European Olympic Committees.

## 11. Miscellaneous

### Confederacion Sudamericana.

President Cajaravilla accepted Catalunya. Total lack of respect towards FIRS. There is no South American Continental Confederation, we do have only 5 continents.

We should not authorize the existence of a sub-continental confederation, and tell the members of the Panamerican Confederation to be very careful on this.

Proposal Leftwich: Give Mr Noguchi the appointment of FIRS Honorary Member.

Approved unanimously, shall be presented at the Congress tomorrow for ratification.

It is confirmed that Macau and Hong Kong athletes shall be asked to show their passport as identification.

Marotta. We had some problems with the International World Games Association, willing to cancel artistic skating from the 2009 edition because at Duisburg 2005 the quality level of the performances was low.

They always want the best athletes of the world. We should send all of our member federations precise indications on this aspect. I spoke with Froehlich, they intend to turn the entries of the artistic skaters to the other roller disciplines. I rejected this proposal because artistic must be there.

72 speed

50 artistic

96 inline hockey= 218

...I asked him this alternative solution:

60 speed

50 artistic

94 inline hockey

Minimum 204 people, officials included.



All FIRS-IWGA communications must pass through the FIRS President or Secretary General.

IWGA as always is the sole Body deciding our passport, in the past we had 48 for speed + 12 officials, 40 artistic + 10 officials, 70 roller hockey + 14 officials = 186.

I asked now 60 athletes for the speed + 12 officials, 40 artistic + 10 officials, 84 in line + 12 off. = 218 yet minimum figure they should grant to us is, totally, as follows, speed 60, 50 artistic and 94 for the inline hockey.

PanAmerican games. If we want to become Olympic Sport we should take part to all multi-sport events in the world. The number of medals is actually rather reduced for us. We can't have there 5 events just like in the WG. I am worried for the organization in Rio, as we have no representative there. I asked Carlos Orlando Ferreira to help us somehow.

Marotta would like to invite european and asian judges at the Pan american games. He will send a project of a speed skating track.

No other subject to be dealt, President Aracu declares the meeting closed at 19h00, thanking all participants, particularly President, and wishing to see all participants to next meeting in the Gold Coast (Australia), in Nov. 3 2007.

The Secretary General  
Dr. Roberto MAROTTA

The President  
Hon. Sabatino ARACU