



**Ordinary Executive Board Meeting
Conference Call
10th January 2024
2:00 PM (CET)**

- 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
- Nathanaël Koty Vice President and President of World Skate Africa
- Gary Ream Chair Skateboarding Technical Commission
- Nicola Genchi Chair Artistic Skating Technical Commission
- Andrea Fonzari Chair Inline Hockey Technical Commission
- Jorge Roldan Chair Speed Skating Technical Commission
- Carmelo Paniagua Chair Rink Hockey Technical Commission
- Sigfried Zistler Chair Alpine Technical Commission
- Weifeng Gu Chair Inline Freestyle Technical Commission
- Olivier Pascal Chair Roller Freestyle Technical Commission
- Ellen French Chair Roller Derby technical Commission
- Helmeri Pirinen Chair Scootering Technical Commission
- Patricia Wallace Chair Medical Commission
- WORLD SKATE MANAGERS AND STAFF

AGENDA

1. Opening by World Skate President
2. Approval of the minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting
3. Updates on Russian and Belarusian athletes
4. Establishment of one single Governing Body per Country
5. Miscellaneous
 - a. Amendments to World Skate By-Laws
 - b. Approval of Speed Regulations
 - c. Post Paris 2024 World Skate Congress
 - d. New affiliations

ITEM 1 - OPENING BY WORLD SKATE PRESIDENT

President Aracu greets and thanks everyone for being present at the first 2024 EB, the centennial year of our International Federation, now World Skate, the year in which we will be present for the second time at the Olympics. It is also the year of the World Skate Games 2024 and the year that will mark the 100th Anniversary of World Skate, which was first established on April 21, 1924.

Several initiatives are being planned to celebrate the anniversary, and President Aracu takes this opportunity to thank all the staff, which has now grown to more than 50 members, for their contribution to this initiative and the work they do on a daily basis.

The president then recalls that 2024 will be the year of the World Skate Games to be held in Italy, which led the International Federation to commission for the first time a most important study to an international agency. In particular, the agency is to assess the economic impact that such an event will have on the organizing country: expected revenues are in the range of \$200 million since many people will travel to the host country, thus boosting tourism and producing revenues, against organizational expenses that should total \$15-20 million.

The 2024 edition of these Games should be an example for all countries that may want to host them in the future. In this respect World Skate is already involved in talks with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, China and Japan for future editions.

President Aracu also informs that:

- the location of the Skateboarding Tour was moved from Sharjah to Dubai because of the war in the Middle East.
- The World Championships in Tokyo had a fantastic TV coverage, and their organization was excellent.
- The top skateboarding athletes will participate in the OQs, organized directly by the IOC in both Shanghai and Budapest.
- The IOC will help World Skate strengthen its economic capacity to help countries that need support.
- The World Skate Elective Congress will take place during the WSG.
- The Marathon Tour, which began with the event in Cuba, was fairly successful and will continue with additional stops throughout the year.

Extending his sincere thanks to all the people attending, President Aracu passes the floor to Secretary General Roberto Marotta who opens the agenda for discussion.

Roberto Marotta takes the floor and starts to examine the various items on the agenda.

ITEM 2 - APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The minutes were timely sent to all EB members, and as no comments were received, the minutes are put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The minutes are unanimously approved



ITEM 3 - UPDATES ON RUSSIAN AND BELARUSIAN ATHLETES

Secretary General Marotta informs that the IOC has allowed individual participation of athletes from these countries while is still not recognizing the Russian and Belarusian Olympic committees. It has postponed any decision on the matter, and therefore World Skate will also abide by this directive.

Marotta shares his screen to show a document that explains the participation-regulating criteria and emphasizes the need for a third-party organization to check that these athletes meet the requirements and issue the certification. The certification costs \$2,500, so athletes must sign the agreement to participate in any event.

Readmission of Russia and Belarus is postponed until later decisions by the IOC.

President Aracu takes the floor to point out that this certification company, Sport Radar, comes at a cost, which will be communicated to everyone shortly.

World Skate cannot either entertain contacts or relations with the Olympic Committees of Russia and Belarus, let alone the Federations, and therefore President Aracu calls on the World Skate Technical Commissions to figure out very well which and how many athletes will want to register for the events in each discipline, set a maximum number and inform them that when registering they will have to show their certification, with the risk of not being accepted on the basis of their declarations despite having paid for the certification.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta, there being no comments on the matter, puts the document to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The document is unanimously approved

ITEM 4 - ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE SINGLE GOVERNING BODY PER COUNTRY

Marotta stresses the importance of this item, which leads to the establishment of a single federation, a single governing body for each country affiliated with World Skate.

For the countries where there is more than one federation, World Skate had set December 31, 2023 as the final date to finalize an agreement and identify a single federation to represent the country: this would leave full economic and organizational independence to the existing federations as long as they are united under one governing body.

Some Federations have adapted and complied with the decision, while some countries have found it difficult to comply or have opposed it. Therefore, it will be up to World Skate to ratify the affiliation of only one Federation per individual country.

President Aracu takes the floor to underline the large number of Federations present and explain that the Federations of Belarus and Russia cannot be considered for the reasons discussed above, and therefore, no decisions can be made regarding them.



We start with Brazil, which is also the most difficult case because while in other countries, such as Switzerland and South Africa, a solution has been found, the Confederação Brasileira de Skateboarding (CBSK) has shown a negative and disparaging behavior toward the International Federation. CBSK does not take World Skate's decision into consideration, let alone the possibility of joining the other existing National Federation, which unlike CBSK has made itself available to change its statutes and approve a new one stating the technical and financial autonomy of all its sports. That Federation is also willing to change its name to Skate Brazil.

Today, unfortunately, World Skate is forced to disaffiliate CBSK and mandate the Confederação Brasileira de Hóquei e Patinação (CBHP) to create a Federation that will draft a Statute with the above characteristics.

However, in view of the Paris Olympics, World Skate has wanted to keep skateboarding out of any controversy to avoid creating problems for athletes. As a result, the Brazilian Olympic Committee has been entrusted with the governance of skateboarding until the end of the Olympic Games.

President Aracu gives the floor to Legal Counsel Francesco D'Urbano to read the resolution on Brazil.

D'Urbano takes the floor and reads resolution No. 2/2024, which is simultaneously shown on the screen.

President Aracu informs that all resolutions will be sent to all countries and gives the floor to Carmelo Paniagua, who would like to speak.

Paniagua has doubts about how Brazilian athletes will register for World Skate events and believes it is important for them to be timely informed about the new registration arrangements.

Aracu reiterates that World Skate has entrusted the Brazilian Olympic Committee (COB), with any direct relationship with Brazilian athletes, precisely so that there will be no arguments and athletes can properly follow their pathway to the Olympics.

The same problem has existed for some time in the United States where is also being handled by the Olympic Committee.

It is clear that the resolution to this problem will have to wait until after the Olympics.

The floor is now given to Gary Ream, who believes that this issue mostly impacts countries such as Brazil, Australia, and Sweden and to a lesser extent the United States where roller sports have never shown much interest in skateboarding. However, for Brazil, this becomes almost a religious conflict because CBSK has worked wonders for skateboarding, making it grow more than in any other country. World Skate has to respect skateboarders and their ideas, something can be done through the Olympic committees, but the conflict in Brazil is huge, and it would be desirable to try and do everything possible to put everything back in the hands of the organization. This would improve not only the relationship with World Skate but also the relationship with social media.

President Aracu takes the floor, thanks Gary Ream for his contribution, and informs all participants that World Skate has been in contact with athletes and coaches who do not wish to be involved in politics; the problem is that they have been led by those who have wanted them to believe that World Skate intends to destroy them.

We must bide our time until the Olympics; thus, it is better for the Olympic Committee to follow and represent them so that when the new federation is ready, the athletes will not even have to notice the change. The Brazilian Olympic Committee plans to keep the current technical staff.



Skateboarding athletes will be taken care of down to the last detail, with an allocation of as much as \$4 million for their preparation.

Marotta takes the floor to report that in the United States, the Olympic Committee has envisioned that there will be a single governing body with a single president, but within this federation that will be called Skate USA each discipline will have its total sporting and economic independence, thus demonstrating that a solution is viable. What matters is the determination to collaborate to secure a solution, a will that the president of the Brazilian federation has not shown.

Resolution 2/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: 15

Against: none

Abstained: 1

Resolution 02/2024 is approved by majority vote.

Next on the agenda is the Canada resolution. Canada has three federations, but the skateboarding federation has been entrusted with leading the unification process. One issue remains, and that concerns the name of the federation, which cannot be Canada Skate since it is the name of the Ice-Skating Federation.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 03/2024 skipping the first part which is the same for all.

Gary Ream points out that the resolution does not give an alternative name for the new Federation of Canada, something that should be included and voted on.

Aracu agrees with Gary Ream that it would be better to specify that since they cannot take the name Skate Canada, they should find a name that unites them all and then communicate it to World Skate.

The resolution is amended and the amendment is read.

Marotta call the vote on resolution 03/2024 regarding Canada.

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved.

Aracu moves on to the next resolution regarding Finland where there are two federations that have resolved that the Finnish Skating Association will be the sole governing body and will also have a time frame until the end of April to change the Statutes and change its name to Skate Finland.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 04/2024

Resolution 04/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved



President Aracu moves on to resolution 05/2024 which concerns Georgia where there are two Federations. Given the reliability and accountability of the Skateboarding Federation, World Skate has resolved to entrust the process to that Federation.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 05/2024

Resolution 05/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved

The next resolution concerns the Netherlands with 3 federations and where it has been decided that the governing body should lie with the KNSB federation that will involve skateboarding and all other disciplines.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 7/2024

Resolution 07/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved

Aracu moves on to Slovenia where there is little skateboarding, but an agreement will be reached between the two existing federations. The Roller Skating Federation will establish the governing body according to World Skate guidelines.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 8/2024

Resolution 08/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved

President Aracu illustrates the situation in Sweden, whose two federations have found a good agreement according to which the Sweden Sport Federation will become the governing body.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 9/2024

Resolution 9/2024 was put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved



President Aracu extends his apologies to the Executive Board for forgetting to read the resolution regarding Latvia and subsequently calling for a vote on it. Latvia's skateboarding federation becomes the sole governing body for all disciplines.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 6/2024

Resolution 06/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved

It's now the turn of resolution No. 10 about Turkey. President Aracu points out that there are two federations: the Turkish Roller Sports Federation and the Turkish Skateboarding Federation; since the Roller Sports Federation has been inactive for some time, the governance of all disciplines is entrusted to the Turkish Skateboarding Federation.

Resolution 10/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved

Finally, the president analyses the U.S. situation with its two federations: the USA Roller Sports Federation and the Skateboarding Federation. They agree with each other and are determined to work together expressing their full confidence in the Olympic Committee, which will prepare all the paperwork related to the merger into a single entity to be called USA Skate.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 11/2024

Resolution 11/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The resolution is unanimously approved

Having concluded the voting on the resolutions, Aracu asks the EB to vote on the decision not to take immediate action regarding Russia and Belarus, as said earlier, following the advice given by the IOC. Therefore, it would be correct to read the two resolutions.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 1/2024 and specifies that the two Belarus Federations have to an agreement and when they accept all the points included in the World Skate resolution, they will be recognized under the name Skate Belarus and will be able to operate as a national entity as soon as the IOC lifts the ban on their participation in sporting events. In the meantime, the participation of Belarus athletes in World Skate events will be regulated according to Resolution 7/2023.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta puts this resolution to a vote:



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In favour: all
 Against: none
 Abstained: none
 The resolution is unanimously approved

The resolution for Russia is just like the one for Belarus. However, the two Russian federations have not yet come to an agreement, thus Secretary General Marotta asks D'Urbano to read this resolution as well, so that it can be put to a vote.

Francesco D'Urbano reads resolution 8/2024

Resolution 8/2024 is put to a vote:

In favour: all
 Against: none
 Abstained: none
 The resolution is unanimously approved

Coffee break

After a short break, Secretary General Roberto Marotta resumes the works from Miscellaneous Item 5 a:

ITEM 5a - AMENDMENTS TO WORLD SKATE BY-LAWS

This amendment follows recently approved changes and the difficulties World Skate encounters when organizations outside World Skate organize events that compete and sometimes conflict with World Skate regulations. This amendment recommends that member federations prevent their athletes from participating in events that do not guarantee the principles IOC has established for Olympic sports, particularly with regard to judging criteria for judges and doping controls.

President Aracu takes the floor and points out that our Statutes include a clear reference to paragraph 10 of the Bylaws concerning the recommendations also made by Thomas Bach, i.e. that athletes should participate in competitions where qualified judges and proper anti-doping controls are present, because anti-doping is a fixed rule that everyone must comply with along with qualified judges, so to prevent private groups from labelling their competitions as "World Championships" and in which our athletes participate, the same athletes that compete in World Championships and the Olympics. Article 4.2 of the Statutes reads that National Federations must pursue the objectives set by World Skate.

An organization like SLS, for instance, organizes World Championships: it is not our intention to harm the athletes, but we cannot remain indifferent, and therefore, a clearer rule must be included in the Bylaws to protect the athletes. It cannot be accepted that our National Federations decide to sponsor Championships other than World Skate's, as it happened in the case of CBSK with SLS as well as with the French Federation that supported an SLS event. As a result, it is essential to include criteria protecting the International Federation, otherwise we risk destroying over time the national federations as well. The Bylaws should include rules formulated in a clearer fashion, and subsequently, a circular should be sent out to all federations communicating what we have just said.



Carmelo Paniagua takes the floor to say that he fully agrees with Aracu because this is a very serious problem, but unfortunately in Spain, for example, the government allows private entities to organize competitions. All Spanish National Federations are working together to convince the Spanish government to put an end to this situation. An amendment would certainly benefit everyone. Sanctions could also be enforced. It is obvious that athletes like to participate in these events where important prizes are given and the federations cannot forbid it.

Before reading the amendment, Aracu underlines once again the seriousness of the problem, because it is very difficult to force athletes to make a choice and it is a big commitment for World Skate to organize quality events and to do better and better.

Francesco D'Urbano reads the article to be included in Bylaws Par. 10 l

Gary Ream reflects on whether the idea of limiting national federations from sponsoring private events would not limit athletes from participating in them. Aracu responds by saying that national federations should support World Skate international events as much as possible and ask World Skate for permission to host other international events not in line with World Skate.

Secretary Roberto Marotta takes the floor to stress that World Skate national federations must protect the events organized by World Skate and do everything possible to ensure that athletes do not participate in events that fail to comply with anti-doping controls.

Karen Doyle points out that it will be very difficult to demand that athletes do not participate in events organized by private entities.

Aracu agrees with Karen about the difficulty of preventing an athlete from participating in an event, but a distinction must be made between participating in an event that is considered a showcase and a world championship that is not organized by World Skate. As to the latter, World Skate athletes cannot participate. If rules are not put in place, World Skate risks losing its credibility in a few years' time.

Sports Director Francesco Zangarini takes the floor to point out that the intention is to protect the athletes and not to limit them, working to make them compete in a safe environment by implementing key-requirements such as anti-doping rules. This does not mean preventing them from participating, but World Skate must work together with national federations to find a way to cooperate with event organizers.

Gary Ream agrees with Zangarini's opinion, but he also believes that many of the events organized by private entities are important for the sponsorships they bring. He concludes by saying that hopefully these events will become more numerous, but they should obviously be separated from the official events that are the sole responsibility of World Skate.

Olivier Pascal says he believes that the names given to these events are often wrong, and therefore World Skate should make its responsibility that these events be given the right names leaving no room for misunderstandings.

Roberto Marotta asks Francesco D'Urbano to reread the amendment.

D'Urbano reads the amendment that will be included in Par. 10.

Aracu asks for the opinion of the EB members who are also Presidents of National Federations. Paniagua agrees on including the amendment and believes that action should be taken by National Federations precisely on the choice of names given to these events. Athletes are free to go wherever



they want, although the Federations should tell them that the official events are the ones that really matter.

With debate concluded, Marotta puts the amendment to Par.10 of the Bylaws to a vote

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The amendments are unanimously approved

President Aracu asks to go on first to Miscellaneous item C:

ITEM 5c - POST-PARIS 2024 WORLD SKATE CONGRESS

Aracu asks all participants if they agree to hold the Elective Congress during the World Skate Games.

Paniagua says that he does not like events that combine different issues, especially an elective Congress where everyone needs to be relaxed in dealing with it. Marotta explains that the rationale for the Congress to take place during WSG is that most of the presidents of the national federations are expected to be in attendance.

Patricia Wallace is given the floor to deliver the anti-doping report.

Ms. Wallace is grateful for the opportunity to share information regarding the anti-doping testing figures for 2023: 300 tests including 7 by administering blood tests, 20% of which were out-of-competition tests. The results matched the doping control form.

Ms. Wallace is extremely appreciative of the work everyone did in a true cooperation spirit: in 2023 WADA insisted on the need for growth hormone testing while not making it mandatory. As a result, many federations specified that it was not mandatory to include blood tests in the plan of anti-doping tests during events. However, it is important that federations stand ready to consider such a test mandatory because this is what WADA will require and it should be included in the anti-doping control budget as accounting for 10% of all tests for most World Skate disciplines.

Pat Wallace also says that it is essential to have an anti-doping representative during events to ensure that everything is conducted according to WADA and World Skate regulations.

No anti-doping regulation violations were recorded for World Skate in 2023 even though there were additional required tests.

Mrs. Wallace says she is working on the doping control plan for 2024, but she needs to know dates and disciplines for continental championships. It is important to have the testing authority number approved by World Skate through the ADAMS platform.

Educating athletes and support staff is of the essence to continue to promote clean sport within World Skate. Educational materials and the list of banned substances were sent out to all national federations by World Skate in December 2023. The same information was also made available on the World Skate website.



Federations need to make sure that such information reaches to the athletes and their support staff so that everyone can then benefit from it.

World Skate will continue to require WADA-issued anti-doping education certificates for support staff at 2024 competitions.

World Skate is training staff through ITA to increase the number of people available for face-to-face meetings during events.

The medical commission is working toward a transgender-inclusive policy to help preserve the health of all athletes and is working with World Medical Industries (WMI) to reduce as much as possible injuries to athletes during World Skate events and to develop guidelines meant to give as much support as possible to organizing committees in managing the events.

At the end of her presentation, Patricia Wallace says that the Board can count on Angela Masci, whom she thanks for her excellent cooperation, and herself for any support that may be needed.

President Aracu thanks Mrs. Wallace for her unwavering commitment and for the excellent work she and Angela Masci have been doing and that is always greatly appreciated by all relevant bodies.

General Secretary Roberto Marotta takes the floor to go on to Miscellaneous item B;

ITEM 5b - APPROVAL OF SPEED REGULATIONS

Marotta points out that everyone has received the document regarding the Speed Skating Rulebook, which was drafted by the Technical Commission that has the full confidence of World Skate. It is therefore possible to put it to a vote along with the Downhill Skateboarding and Marathon Tour Rulebooks that have been drafted only recently:

In favour: all

Against: none

Abstained: none

The regulations are unanimously approved

Deputy Secretary General Doris Gentile takes the floor to inform the participants that Pat Wallace believes that the Speed Skating RuleBook should include a delegate and not an anti-doping representative along with an anti-doping commission.

She also believes that in the three RuleBooks that have just been approved, the part concerning the costs to be met by World Skate should be revised.

Roberto Marotta thanks Pat Wallace for her comments, which will be taken into consideration and appropriate changes will be made before official publication.

Marotta then moves on to the last item on the agenda:

ITEM 5d - NEW AFFILIATIONS

Provisional recognition is to be given only to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Federation, which has submitted all the documents and will then be able to participate in international events pending ratification that will take place during the next Congress.



And finally a discussion is opened on the names of the Federations should have and more specifically whether to put the name of the nation before or after the word Skate. This is an ongoing process that will be resolved in the next few months.

President Aracu takes the floor and announces that the organization fee for the World Skate World Championships has been raised from 45,000 USD to 50,000 USD to allow for adequate fees to be paid to all participating judges. He brings the meeting to an end thanking everyone for their participation and all the staff for their great daily work.

The meeting closes at 5:30 p.m.



Roberto Marotta
Secretary General



Sabatino Aracu
President

