



**Ordinary Executive Board Meeting  
Conference Call  
26<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
2:00 PM (CET)**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS WITH VOTING RIGHTS ATTENDING**

- Sabatino Aracu President
- Karen Doyle First Vice President and Commissioner Oceania
- Luís Seníca 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
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**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS WITH NO VOTING RIGHTS ATTENDING**

- Roberto Marotta Secretary General
- Doris Gentile Vice Secretary General
- Patricia Wallace Chair Medical Commission

**WORLD SKATE MANAGEMENT & STAFF**

**AGENDA**

- (a) Opening by the President
- (b) Approval of the minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting.
- (c) Activity reports and financial statements of World Skate Continental Areas for the year 2023.

- (d) Approval of World Skate financial statement for the year 2023.
- (e) Approval of World Skate budget for the year 2024.
- (f) Updates on the establishment of one single national governing body per country
- (g) Miscellaneous

**a) Opening by the President**

President Aracu greets and thanks everyone for attending the last EB ahead of the Paris Olympics. The Olympic qualification pathway closed with the two OQS (Olympic Qualifier Series) stops held in Shanghai and Budapest.

In these clusters, developed with climbing, BMX and breaking, skateboarding registered an amazing performance also thanks to the great work by the staff.

The 88 qualified athletes put on a great show, with an overall level improving year after year.

The presence of Thomas Bach, Kit Mc Connell and Christophe De Kepper both in Shanghai and Budapest was a source of great satisfaction for World Skate.

After Paris, the World Skate Games will be the first sporting showcase in the world after the Olympics. The events will open on September 5 with the celebration for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Skate at the Capitol. The event will be attended by the highest political authorities. The Opening Ceremony of the World Skate Games is scheduled on September 6 and it will be broadcast in more than 100 countries worldwide thanks to the agreement with Media Pro. The World Skate Elective Congress will take place on September 7. In this regard, President Aracu informs Executive Board members that he will run again together with Karen Doyle, and hopefully also with the team he has worked with over the years.

The Skateboarding tour was held in several important cities, and a great future is in the making: major cities such as Washington D.C. and San Francisco are showing their interest for these events, and China and South America seem to follow.

President Aracu goes on to say that once the World Skate Games are over, he is planning a tour in Africa and Oceania in order to organize major events in those Continents.

A World Skate Urban Cup is also being organized that will bring together urban disciplines, with a final Roller Marathon involving a high number of people.

President Aracu concludes by reporting that private organizations such as SLS are trying to steal the scene from World Skate by organizing events they call World Championships, but which have neither World Skate-certified judges nor anti-doping controls; therefore, WSK-affiliated federations should be asked not to send their athletes to these competitions, and in any case legal action is being taken also thanks to the help of ASOIF.

**b) Approval of the minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting**

General Secretary Roberto Marotta takes the floor and puts the approval of the previous EB minutes to a vote.

In favor: all

Abstained: none



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Unanimously approved

c) **Activity reports and financial statements of World Skate Continental Areas for the year 2023**

Roberto Marotta voices his appreciation for the report sent by the European area, and asks Luis Seneca to take the floor.

*Due to audio problems, we move on to the next item*

(d) **Approval of World Skate financial statement for the year 2023.**

The Secretary General says he is pleased to show the results of the previous year's financial statement and reads the main points of the report that was previously sent to all EB members. SG Marotta points out that the biggest expenses incurred were the ones related to Skateboarding development, event organization, staff and consultancy.

*Roberto Marotta reads the main items from the document that is displayed on the screen*

The Secretary General Marotta turns the floor over to President Aracu, who reminds everyone that the World Skate financial statement is cash-based, not accrual-based. In January 2024, World Skate events generated a flow of USD 1,700,000, an amount that was supposed to be collected at the end of 2023 and which would have allowed the financial statement to close in the positive side, but fortunately World Skate always maintains bank consistencies that allow for maximum financial security, and as a result in 2024 the accounts had a breakeven.

Still on the expenses side, it is important to mention prize money, video production (again with the same company), and anti-doping expenses. The cost of staff and consultants is high, but it needs to be considered an asset for World Skate. President Aracu hopes to set up organizational offices not only in Rome but in all the Continents as well.

World Skate is growing and the figures show it: in 2018 revenues were nearly 2 million, in 2019 4,755,000 USD, and in 2020 4,049,000 USD. In 2021, the year of COVID 3,581,000 USD, while in 2022 figures rose to 4,643,000 USD, and this year, we are at about 7Mln. President Aracu recalls the importance of having skilled staff, whom he thanks for their excellent daily work.

In his final remarks, President Aracu talks about the legal dispute World Skate has with Peru. The arbitration court initially recognized the plaintiff's claims; the amount owed will have to be repaid, but the sum has not been budgeted because WSK intends to lodge an appeal.

The Secretary General Marotta takes the floor and ask to vote on the approval of the financial statement:

In favor: ALL

Abstained: none

Unanimously approved



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**(e) Approval of World Skate budget for the year 2024.**

Secretary General Roberto Marotta reads the main items of income and expenses of the document, which has already been circulated among the EB members.

The hope is to reach a positive balance of more than US\$5,000,000 with cash availability of US\$6,000,000.

President Aracu apologizes as June is late for budget approval, but the agreements with the IOC had not yet been closed and now World Skate managed to get 6,000,000 from the IOC.

The President wonders whether in the future it would be more convenient to continue to be part of the OQS or to organize World Skate events that count as Olympic qualifiers, since there are cities that organize events by paying very high fees, and may see the competition taken away from them when it counts the most.

Negotiations are under way to receive the TV rights of the Olympics that will rightfully belong to World Skate after Los Angeles 2028; President Aracu is trying - by means of Bach and De Kepper- to receive TV rights immediately after Paris.

The Secretary General takes the floor and puts the budget to a vote:

In favor: ALL

Abstained: none

Unanimously approved

**(f) Updates on the establishment of one single national governing body per country**

President Aracu takes the floor, stressing that the decision adopted by the Congress in 2019 in Barcelona was carried forward and the process leading to the establishment of a single National Governing Body per Country is almost complete, with a few situations that are being settled.

CBSK from Brazil appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, saying that with the establishment of one single Federation jobs would be lost, and underlining that the decision should come from the Congress and not through EB resolutions. The Brazilian NOC has handled skateboarding very well during this period. A hearing will be held on September 26, and a final decision on the matter will be taken. For the time being, the Court of Arbitration for Sport has mandated that the two Brazilian federations be maintained until that date.

The upcoming Congress will open with the ratification of new NGBs (that will then have a right vote) and withdrawal of memberships.

Vice President Alberto Herrera takes the floor and asks President Aracu to clarify a few things: the Executive Board approved the resolutions that called for the establishment of a Single Governing Body per country. As regards the American Continent, the three



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federations in Canada have established a single NGB, and the two in the U.S. are working towards the same goal, whereas in Brazil there are still two federations.

President Aracu confirms that Brazil still has two Federations because the Skateboarding Federation refused to start any process to establish one single NGB, while the other Brazilian Federation (CBHP) agreed to change its name and amend its Statutes. CBSK lodged an appeal with CAS putting World Skate in the uncomfortable position to convene the Congress with two Federations from a single Country, somehow going against the provisions of World Skate Statutes.

World Skate has recognized CBHP (the federation with more sports and disciplines) as the Governing Body, into which the other should have been included. For World Skate today there is one federation but for the CAS there are two NGBs in Brazil.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta gives the floor to Luis Senica, who previously had problems with his audio signal.

Vice President Luis Senica takes the floor, stressing that work has been done to reorganize the Commissions and improve the monitoring of events.

First Vice President Karen Doyle takes the floor and says that shortly she will send a report; she underlines that the Fiji Islands are experiencing great difficulties, and as a result the active federations are - as usual - Australia and New Zealand.

Vice Presidents Koty and Thomas Cai state that everything is progressing positively.

President Aracu asks that all Vice Presidents send reports as Luis Senica did; in this way World Skate can provide support and avoid things that do not work. For instance, the dates of competitions must be agreed upon together to avoid overlapping. After the Olympic Games and the World Skate Games, meetings will be organized with the Continents to see how we can help them.

#### **(g) Miscellaneous**

President Aracu asks EB members to vote on the establishment of a representative office in Rome.

In favor ALL

Abstained: none

Unanimously approved

In the end, President Aracu asks the Continental Presidents to talk to their Federations and ask them to change their names to Skate plus the Country name, while keeping the term Federation where required for tax purposes.



Olivier Pascal takes the floor to thank President Aracu and points out that World Skate events are all over the world on TV and in sports magazines. Therefore, all urban sports and disciplines need to be given prominence. Pascal invites everyone who has ideas and proposals worth being developed to share them with him, and he will support any valuable initiative in Europe and in the five Continents.

Having tackled all the items on the agenda, the meeting ends at 3:30 pm.



The Secretary General  
Roberto Marotta



The President  
Sabatino Aracu



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