



MINUTES

World Skate Executive Board Meeting 18 June 2025 2:00 PM (CET) Conference call

Executive Board members with voting rights attending:

- | | |
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| • Sabatino Aracu | President |
| • Karen Doyle | 1 st Vice President and Commissioner of WSK Oceania |
| • Luís Sénica | Vice President WSK and President WSK Europe |
| • Huang Qiang | Vice President WSK and President WSK Asia |
| • Nathanael Koty | Vice President WSK and President WSK Africa |
| • Nicola Genchi | Chair of the Artistic Technical Commission |
| • Andrea Fonzari | Chair of the Inline Hockey Technical Commission |
| • Carmelo Paniagua | Chair of the Rink Hockey Technical Commission |
| • Marco Cardoso | Chair of the Speed Technical Commission |
| • Shelby Grimnes | Chair of the Scootering Technical Commission |
| • Weifeng Gu | Chair Freestyle Technical Commission |
| • Ellen French | Chair Roller Derby Technical Commission |

Executive Board members not attending:

- | | |
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| • Jana Hermle-Börsig | Chair Downhill Technical Commission |
| • Alberto Herrera Ayala | Vice President WSK and President WSK America |
| • Leticia Bufoni | Chair Skateboarding Technical Commission |
| • Amalia Brodka | Athletes representative |

Executive Board members with no voting rights attending:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Roberto Marotta | Secretary General |
| • Doris Gentile | Vice-Secretary General |
| • Patricia Wallace | Chair of the Medical Commission |
| • Francesco Zangarini | Sports Director |

AGENDA

1. Opening by the President
2. Approval of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 25th February 2025
3. Approval of World Skate financial statement for the year 2024
4. Approval of World Skate 2025 revised budget
5. Activity Reports of World Skate Continental Areas
6. World Skate Antidoping Statistical Report 1st January to 31 December 2024
7. New affiliations
8. Approval of the following Regulations:
 - a) Inline Slalom
 - b) Inline Downhill
 - c) Inline Hockey
 - d) Rink Hockey
9. Miscellaneous

President Aracu, having ascertained that the majority of Executive Board members are present and that the meeting has been duly convened, declares the Executive Board validly constituted and able to deliberate on the items on the agenda.

1. Opening by the President

The President welcomes all the Executive Board members and informs them of the recent visit to Rome on the occasion of the Skateboarding World Cup Tour by IOC President Thomas Bach and IOC President-elect Kirsty Coventry, who will begin her term on 23 June. This visit confirms the consolidation and development resulting from World Skate's commitment to its sports, both at an institutional and sporting level.

The President reports that the number of views on traditional and social media of the Skateboarding World Cup Tour in Rome has been extraordinary; he expresses his hope that all roller sports will become increasingly popular and that multi-game events, such as the World Skate Games or the Mediterranean Games, will be an opportunity for development and cooperation between and among all World Skate stakeholders. President Aracu expresses his appreciation to the Executive Board for the work carried out to date and concludes by urging those present to view change not as an obstacle but as a strategic opportunity, emphasising how, in an ever-changing global context, adaptability is crucial to avoid the risk of being overtaken or redefined by external circumstances.

The President gives the floor to the Secretary General, who introduces the items on the agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 25 February 2025

Secretary General Roberto Marotta thanks the President and asks the members to vote on this item. President Senica points out that the minutes do not include the report made by World Skate Europe regarding its intention to organise a continental skateboarding championship. The Secretary General, having made the amendment requested by President Senica, asks the members to vote.

The minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting are put to a vote.

Votes against 0

Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

3. Approval of World Skate financial statement for the year 2024

Secretary General Roberto Marotta moves on to item 3 of the agenda and presents the financial statement for the year 2024, which shows solid financial management. The Secretary General informs the Executive Board that the audit has been performed by Deloitte, whose report is attached to the financial statements.

Carmelo Paniagua, Chair of the Rink Hockey Technical Commission, takes the floor to congratulate President Aracu on the extraordinary management results, but points out the difficulty of comparing the economic revenues of all the sports under World Skate's umbrella, highlighting that some of them have a greater capacity to attract advertising, which makes the events and related activities more sustainable. Chair Paniagua therefore invites reflection on alternative measures to support the weaker sports, perhaps identifying items within the budget - which is quite sound - that could be used to support some expenses that the NFs or clubs would struggle to cover.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta thanks Chair Paniagua for his thoughts and gives the floor to President Aracu, who calls for greater appeal for all disciplines, including through the consolidation of World Skate's expertise. By placing its professional resources increasingly at the service of the Continents, World Skate intends to promote initiatives whose common denominator is the desire for growth and greater competitiveness. Although skateboarding is currently the leading discipline, as the only Olympic sport, the President calls for further significant development for all the other sports and disciplines. This development, based on solid teamwork, will enable greater sustainability and independence to be achieved.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta asks the Executive Board to proceed to the vote on the financial statement for the year 2024.

Votes against 0

Abstained 0

Unanimously approved

4. Approval of the revised budget for World Skate 2025

Secretary General Roberto Marotta asks the Executive Board to vote on the revised budget for 2025.

Votes against 0

Abstained 0

Unanimously approved

5. Activity Reports of World Skate Continental Areas

Secretary General Roberto Marotta moves on to item 5 of the agenda and notes that the only Continent to have submitted its Annual Activity and Financial Report is World Skate Europe. In this regard, he announces that an item will be left on the agenda for each upcoming Executive Board meeting to allow the Presidents of the continents to report on sporting and financial activities. The Secretary General emphasises that this initiative is part of a policy of maximum transparency, with a view to greater sharing of data between World Skate and its Continents. He concludes by inviting the Presidents attending to report on their activities.

World Skate Europe President Louis Senica takes the floor, illustrating the very positive results of his Continent's activities and upcoming initiatives. World Skate Europe President notes that World Skate Europe Annual Report will also be presented to the Portuguese authorities in an attempt to request government funding.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta thanks President Senica and gives the floor to World Skate Asia President Huang Qiang, whom he also asks to explain why the financial report has not been sent.

President Qiang thanks Secretary General Marotta and reports on the many activities planned, including the Asian Roller Games, which will take place in July in Jecheon City, Korea, and will involve the following sports: Speed, Inline Freestyle, Hockey, Rink Hockey and Roller Derby. The Championship involves 17 countries and, for the first time in an Asian championship, Kazakhstan, Nepal and Vietnam will also participate. President Qiang also reports on the upcoming Asian Skateboarding Championship, which will take place in March 2026 in China, not far from Chengdu, where the World Games will be held. He thanks World Skate for its support and expresses his hope that the Skateboarding Championship would serve as a qualifier for

the Olympic Games. He concludes by announcing a series of training activities for Rink Hockey coaches and, in the near future, for Speed and Skateboarding coaches as well. Finally, President Qiang mentions the invitation extended by the Asian Olympic Council to World Skate Asia to participate in the General Assembly of the Olympic Committee with a view to maximum cooperation with local authorities so that roller sports can once again play a leading role in the Asian Championships. As also mentioned by President Aracu, the experience of the Shanghai Marathon, which saw extraordinary participation, is recent proof of this. Regarding the failure to present the financial statements, President Qiang announces that there is no bank account and asks World Skate to manage the income until an official account is opened.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta thanks President Qiang for his work and gives the floor to World Skate Africa President Nathanael Koty, who outlines the two main championships in the Continent: the first is Rink Hockey in Angola (20-27 October 2025), which is expected to be accompanied by the Artistic Championship, still to be finalised. The second is Skateboarding, Speed and Inline Freestyle in Gabon. With regard to the annual activity and financial report, President Koty states that due to some changes in the administration of World Skate Africa, there have been some delays but he would ensure it will be sent by the end of June.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta thanks President Koty and gives the floor to World Skate Oceania Commissioner Karen Doyle, who notes that, as in the case of World Skate Asia, there is no dedicated bank account and the administrative management is delegated to World Skate, and the 2024 financial year was closed with a positive balance of \$44,129. In terms of sporting activities, World Skate Oceania has promoted three Continental Championships in New Zealand with Skate New Zealand for Scootering, Speed and Artistic. Commissioner Doyle informs that in 2025 Skate Australia will organise the Artistic and Scootering Cup in August and, hopefully, training activities for the National Federations of Oceania. She concludes by introducing the application of the new Guam Federation, where the annual meeting of the Oceania National Olympic Committees (ONOC) was held last May and where Commissioner Doyle had the opportunity to meet the leaders of this interesting and active network of skateboarders, which deserves affiliation with World Skate, also considering its strategic position in the Pacific.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta thanks Commissioner Doyle and asks her to send a financial report as soon as an independent bank account is opened.

Noting the absence of Alberto Herrera Ayala, President of World Skate America, the Secretary General gives the floor to President Sabatino Aracu, who thanks the

Presidents of the Continents for their reports and for the extraordinary activities carried out in their territories. The President reiterated the importance of teamwork as an essential element for collective growth for the benefit of the disciplines and athletes, and asks all Executive Board members, in accordance with the rules of the Statutes, to carefully schedule events in order to avoid overlapping that could cause organisational and management problems. It is also recommended that members maintain ongoing dialogue with Sports Director Francesco Zangarini, who can facilitate the suitable coordination of the sports events worldwide.

6. World Skate Anti-Doping Statistical Report 1 January to 31 December 2024

Secretary General Roberto Marotta moves on to item 6 of the agenda and invites those present to ask any questions to the Chair of the Medical Commission, Pat Wallace. As there are no comments, the Secretary General moves on to item 7 of the agenda.

7. New Affiliations

Secretary General Roberto Marotta informs those present that many applications for new affiliations were received, but that there were some formal and statutory requirements to be met, which were not always easy to comply with. Therefore, the only application that was found to be compliant was that of Guam Skate Network for Oceania, which Commissioner Doyle has already mentioned in her speech. The Secretary General asks the members of the Executive Board to express their views on the application. As there are no comments, the Secretary General moves on to item 8 of the agenda

8. Approval of the following Regulations: a) Inline Slalom b) Inline Downhill c) Inline Hockey d) Rink Hockey

Four new Regulations were presented, in which the changes made were grouped together in the Changes Control Management. The Secretary General invites the Technical Commissions to highlight all the changes within the document in future Regulations and not in a separate document. The Artistic Chair, Nicola Genchi, intervenes and, on the contrary, says he is in favour of adopting the Changes Control Management because it allows changes (additions or deletions) and the reasons (benefits and risks) to emerge more clearly. In this regard, he informs those present that he will deliver the new Regulations for Artistic by the end of July.

Sports Director Francesco Zangarini takes the floor to share some innovations that World Skate would like to introduce, in particular for Rink Hockey, which have already been shared with Chair Paniagua. These concern the possible introduction of inline skates for Rink Hockey competitions. The feasibility study for the introduction of this innovation has been entrusted to a special commission that has been working for over a year with the technical commission chaired by Paniagua, who is invited to share his thoughts on the matter. Chair Paniagua does not hide his concern about the introduction of this innovation, also due to the difficulty of making the Regulations and the regulatory framework compatible. For this reason, the Commission requested additional time to assess all the aspects related to this change, which cannot be left to the discretion of athletes.

President Aracu takes the floor and proposes to approve the introduction of inline skates in Rink Hockey, but to give the Commission an additional period of time to verify the best technical requirements.

The Approval of the following Regulations: **a) Inline Slalom b) Inline Downhill c) Inline Hockey d) Rink Hockey**, incorporating the suggestions of President Aracu, is put to a vote.

Votes against 0

Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

World Skate Europe President Louis Senica takes the floor, pointing out that the current Rink Hockey Regulations do not differentiate between inline and quad skates, but that the consideration on the future introduction of inline skates for Rink Hockey competitions deserves to be tested, perhaps with a prototype, in order to test this change on the field. President Senica states, based on his personal expertise, that he does not see a great advantage in introducing the new skate but considers it as an opportunity to give a vital boost to this sport.

Secretary General Roberto Marotta points out that giving athletes the freedom to choose and experiment will naturally determine adoption, which may also vary from country to country. He invites all those present to welcome the introduction of new experiments that may benefit athletes and the sport in general.

Chair Paniagua reiterates his position in favour of introducing new Countries in competitions and opening up new prospects for rink hockey through inline skates, but stresses the importance of regulating their use.

President Aracu takes the floor and urges those present not to be afraid of change and to have the courage to try to make World Skate sports more attractive.

9) Miscellaneous

Secretary General Roberto Marotta moves on to item 9 of the agenda and informs those present that, in compliance with the European legislation, World Skate must also appoint a representative of World Skate ex art. 27 GDPR. In this regard, Francesco Jacopo D'Urbano, the Head of the Legal Department of World Skate, has been identified as a possible candidate for the position, which he will be able to take on without any additional costs. The Secretary General also invites those present to share any issues they wished to raise.

Chair Paniagua takes the floor and shares some issues of financial nature raised by the Association of European Teams, relating to the Championships scheduled for next October in San Juan, Argentina.

President Aracu thanks Chair Paniagua for sharing this issue and hopes that Rink Hockey can become such an attractive sport able to attract ad hoc private funds to make championships more accessible.

President Senica takes the floor and acknowledges the positive future development of rink hockey in view of the innovations approved today at the Executive Board meeting, but draws attention back to the World Championship in San Juan, which today represents a very important moment for the clubs as well as for the technical commissions and national federations. He therefore asks World Skate to consider financial support that could give some peace of mind to the teams committed to participating in the San Juan Championship.

President Aracu takes note of President Senica's comments and invites all continental Presidents to exercise the utmost caution in terms of financial exposure and to consider in advance a rigorous review of organisational limits; if such limitations prevent the staging of World Championships, they must be addressed promptly to avoid last-minute problems.

In closing the Executive Board meeting, President Aracu once again thanks the members of the Executive Board and wishes everyone all the best in their work, with the hope of meeting in person soon.

The meeting ends at 4:13 p.m. (CET).

Roberto Marotta
Secretary General



Sabatino Aracu
President

