



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE ROLLER SPORTS

**MINUTES OF THE FIRS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
SAN BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO
11th – 12th SEPTEMBER 2012**

Members in attendance:

Sabatino Aracu	FIRS President
Roberto Marotta	FIRS Secretary General and CIC President
Valerie Leftwich	FIRS 1 st Vice President
Patricia Wallace	FIRS Vice President (Oceania)
Wendy Gila	FIRS Vice President (Africa)
Carlos Orlando Ferreira	FIRS Vice President (America)
Gilbert Portier	CIRILH President
James Pollard	CIPA President
Harro Strucksberg	CIRH President
Joy Garvey	Athletes Representative
Laura Morandi	FIRS Vice Secretary General
 FIRS Secretariat Staff:	 Simona Mercuri
 Interpreters:	 Alessandra Lunadi, Caterina Noto, Sergio Sacripanti, Lina Lizcano
 Absents:	 Fernando Claro – FIRS Vice President (Europe) Shen Zighou – FIRS Vice President (Asia)

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ITEM 1. Welcome of the President

The President opens the meeting of the Executive Board. The Vice President Sheng Zighuo and the Vice-President Fernando Claro are absent, Claro because of the Rink Hockey European Championships in Portugal Pat Wallace will join the meeting later because engaged with the management of anti-doping. He welcomes in a special way Joey Garvey, representing the athletes, who took part in this meeting for the first time. Finally he congratulates Roberto Marotta for his re-election as CIC President.

ITEM 2: Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

Following a comment of Valerie Leftwich, seconded by Portier and Strucksberg, before the approval of the minutes of San Juan 2011, it is necessary to go back to the minutes of Portimao 2010 to approve an amendment about the voting on the organization of the World Championships every year, amendment, that will be then put in the above mentioned minutes.

The voting about the organization of the World Championships every year for all the disciplines except Rink Hockey was:

IN FAVOUR: 5

AGAINST: 4

ABSTENTIONS: 0

MOTION APPROVED

The amendment to the minutes of Portimao is therefore approved unanimously.

The discussion about the editing of the minutes of San Juan causes a lot of concern among the members of the Executive Board about the method to be used, i.e. to write complete or synthetic minutes. Some members think that the editing of the minutes of the previous meeting does not point out quite clear what arguments have been processed, the interventions made and what decisions were taken by the assembly; it is therefore decided, that the minutes of the meetings of the 'Executive Board will be produced in a concise way, organized by the items in the agenda and that will be specified who is submitting the proposal put to the vote, who supports it, and the result of the ballot.

In addition, on advice of Wendy Gila it was decided that if the document refers to an annex, the annex shall be present.

Approval of the Minutes of San Juan:

IN FAVOUR: 4

AGAINST: 2

ABSTENTIONS: 3
MOTION APPROVED

It also decided that the proposals made by Harro Strucksberg for the last meeting will be discussed during the current meeting.

Pollard has a recommendation, he proposes that the next meeting of the EB be not organized during the World Championships:

This proposal of Pollard is put to vote, seconded by Marotta:

IN FAVOUR: ALL
AGAINST: NONE
ABSTENTIONS: NONE
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

ITEM 3: Report of the President and of the Secretary General

Aracu: As President he does not like to hold any grudges against anyone and is ready to accept the contribution of everyone, but until he is in charge he will fight for any changes that will allow our sport to reach the Olympic goal. The meeting with the members of the IOC during the World Championships in San Benedetto del Tronto has been very productive and collaborative. Observers have pointed out our weaknesses, which will be analyzed when we deal with the item on the agenda, but they have also pointed out how our sport is exciting and engaging. He wants to apologize to the board, as he did with the board of CIC as he would have liked a more appropriate location for the world championship, but the heavy national economic crisis did not allow his project of a World Championship in Rome to be realized, providing a certainly more important location. Despite everything, however during these Championships important goals were achieved in the broadcasting of highlights in 23 countries around the world. New sponsors have shown interest in us and certainly we will get important results in this area.

Finally he expresses a deep regret for the letter written by Pickard, especially for the 'support that he has received from some members of the board, who have delivered to Pickard a confidential document i.e. the draft of the new Statutes. Many grave and offensive things have been written about him and of those who are working for this Federation, but he knows he has always worked in the 'interest of the Roller Sports and the only enemies, against whom he must defend himself are those who interfere with the progress of Roller Sports or fear changes. He hopes in a constructive meeting.

Marotta: He has nothing to add and gives the floor to the VicePresidents

ITEM 4: Report of the Continental Vice-Presidents

Leftwich: see Report (Att.1)

She emphasizes that her involvement as FIRS First Vice-President was zero and that the work done as member of the Statute Commission was not taken into account. She wants to be reassured, that in the future the members of the EB will be more involved in the management of FIRS and in the drafting of the new Statutes, she considers the document presented today highly destructive.

She wants to highlight the importance of the work done by Dr. Wallace, who should be supported by an ad hoc commission; to achieve the Olympic goal. It is essential to demonstrate to WADA to be able to properly handle the issue of anti doping

Ferreira: see Report (Att.2)

In 2015 in Toronto the Panamerican Games will take place and therefore it is important that FIRS supports the CPRS from a human, technical and financial point of view. This support will help the development of Roller Sports in the new countries of the American Continent, to allow them to pressure their Olympic Committees. The presence of Roller Sports in the Panamerican Games is capital because it represents a direct connection with the IOC.

Gila: see Report (Att.3)

Pat Wallace: see Report (Att.4)

ITEM 4. Report of the Presidents of the Technical Committees

Portier: See report (Att.5)

Strucksberg: See report (Att.6)

Pollard: See report (Att.7)

After a brief introduction on the development of the World Championships in Brasilia and on the technical problems due to the venue he returns to the problem of the World Championships every two years and says that the problem will be discussed again at the meeting in New Zealand.

Regarding the upcoming elections for the Presidency of the CIPA he highlights the market of votes that, in his opinion, seriously damages our sport at the international level. He remembers the old International Federation of many years ago, in which the Technical Committees were appointed and knows from experience that the nominations were politically decided, not according to the technical experience and he would not want this to happen again.

He hopes that despite the distance and the lower participation, the World Championships in Auckland could be a success.

Marotta: See report (Att.8)

As CIC President for 15 years and for 20 FIRS Secretary General, he has witnessed a great growth in the participation of countries in the World Championships in the last twenty years. All this has been possible thanks to the contribution of the Organizing Committees in board and lodging for countries that do not have sufficient financial resources. It has been done a great job to admit at the next World Games in Cali a greater number of participants and with the help of the Colombian Federation it was obtained also competitions on road. Despite repeated appeals unfortunately it was not possible to include inline hockey in the program of the Pan American Games in Toronto 2015, and also for our other disciplines it will be a tough fight. There is a serious risk of losing the participation of Roller Sports in the Asian Games, due to few countries to be represented on the podium for speed skating, and due to mediocre performance in the artistic, as it happened in the last edition.

The same commitment was required to Valerie Leftwich for the possible admission of our sport in the Commonwealth Games, but nothing was ever done by her.

With regard to the problem of doping and in view of the Olympic bid, we need greater cooperation from the National Federations and the certainty that they will apply hard sanctions to their athletes.

As President of CIC he also managed the new disciplines which need to be recognized by FIRS: freestyle, downhill, roller derby, skateboarding and inline alpine, and concluded that if FIRS wishes to preserve its role as only govern Body, it is necessary that our National Federations open their doors to these new disciplines, otherwise they will turn elsewhere.

In these days of championship it was a problem with the African judges, who were left outside of the track; he would like to clarify with Wendy Gila, that it is a question of method; for the competition on track of the world championships the best international judges are selected, from whom it is possible to learn also by observing their work and any possible mistakes. Not all judges may however enter the rink.

Finally, in these days he was re-elected at the head of CIC, twenty countries voted against him in favour of a candidate with no experience and this has deeply offended the work he carried out assiduously for years. The money of some federations have been spent on the participation of delegates and not of the athletes and therefore he considers that the recommendation of Jim Pollard about the market of the votes should be directed primarily at those Presidents.

ITEM 5: Draft of the new Statutes (work in progress)

Aracu: He starts the topic by referring to the proposal of the new Statutes sent to the Executive Board members and restating that it is only a draft to work on, not a final project. He acknowledges not having met the commitment, made during the previous meeting, of convening a meeting in February/March in order to this discuss the topic, because of his numerous engagements, but it is now the time to

strongly face the subject in order to pursue the objective of strengthening FIRS and make it a single Federation, able to administrate all 4 disciplines and to obtain prominent results world-wide.

Ferreira: He stresses the fact that the proposal has been recognized by all members as a final project. He believes there are topics that need to be deeply scrutinized, such as the Oceania issue or the management of the Technical Committees and he does not find this time appropriate.

Portier: He states that they would not have construed this action as a dictatorial imposition if the Statutes Commission would have been involved in drafting the new Statutes.

Strucksberg: Seeing that his proposals, sent long since by e-mail, were not included in the agenda, he proposes not to discuss this topic and move to the next point.

Aracu: He believes right and proper to take advantage of this meeting to face this very important topic.

Leftwich: Having received this document 3 weeks from the current date, she says there was no time for the Executive Board members to read the document through, and she finds the fact that the new Statutes propose to remove Oceania from the Executive Board not right nor democratic. Also having the First Vice President elected by the President would allow the President to give mandate to someone to his liking. Also, she finds unacceptable that someone in Europe has received this document earlier than she did, seeing that she is the Vice President.

Aracu: He supports the proposal by Valerie of having the Vice President elected by the Assembly, and apologizes for not having the chance to convene a meeting beforehand, but he wants to remind to all the members that, during the previous Executive Board meeting, the Statutes Commission was voided and him and Marotta were asked to prepare a draft of new Statutes. The document presented is the result of the work carried out by them, but any proposal will be evaluated.

Strucksberg: He is sure that the appointment of the Presidents of the Technical Committees by the President is in conflict with the principles of the Olympic Charter.

Aracu: He knows for a fact that in several sports Federations, FINA (Fédération Nationale de Natation) for example, the Technical Committees are not elective.

Pollard: He proposes a motion, seconded by Ferreira:
The proposal of the Statutes shall be examined by the Statutes Commission and later voted by the Executive Board.

IN FAVOUR: 8

AGAINST: 2

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED

Aracu: He takes cognizance that the Board does not want to discuss the proposal of the Statutes but wants to put it in the hands of the Statutes Commission.

Muñoz: He suggests that the Commission should be small e composed by the FIRS President, 2 Continental Vice Presidents, 2 members of the Technical Committees and the Athletes' Representative.

After a discussion regarding the convenience of the presence of the Athletes' Representative in the meeting to make a draft of the new Statutes, the Commission is decided to be composed by:

Sabatino Aracu, FIRS President
Carlos Orlando Ferreira, CPRS President
Fernando Claro, CERS President
Gilbert Portier, CIRILH President
James Pollard, CIPA President
Roberto Marotta, FIRS Secretary General and CIC President (vith right to vote)

IN FAVOUR: ALL

AGAINST: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Marotta: He suggests to change the current Statutes as indicated by the IOC members, updating the part concerning WADA compliance and to the Athletes' Commission.

Wallace: She points out that the Medical Regulations were already amended in 2010 in Portimao, but the Statutes were not updated as such, and she is available to collaborate with the Commission for the topics connected to anti-doping.

Garvey: During the Athletes' Forum in Colorado Springs, she has recognized IOC's directives, and she has prepared a document that she would like to examine with all the Executive Board members when dealing with the related point of the agenda.

Marotta: He says that, once the changes are made, he will send the amended Statutes to the IOC and then he will bring them to Congress in February to get the approval.

ITEM 6: Olympic Project

Aracu: The President explains the strategy adopted during the last presentation of Roller Sports to the IOC Program Commission for the possible inclusion in the Olympic Games. Following is a short and detailed report of the recommendations given by the IOC members that have assisted to the World Roller Speed Skating Championships 2012 about those aspects that in their opinion should be enhanced: brand and communication. This objective shall be pursued by employing FIRS Ambassadors that will enable the spread of our sport at a professional level in new Countries and by bolstering our website and the Roller TV. This will infact allow our sport to be followed by an increasing number of people and our brand to be rightly showcased. In this regard, it will ne necessary that FIRS has direct control on the organization of all the most important events.

Ferreira: It is necessary to make a constructive analysis of the strategy used in the past to present our sport. While recognizing the great work conducted, he reiterates what previously said, having received confirmation about this from IOC members of the United States. That is, that he finds counter-productive using for the presentation two of our skaters that have won Olympic medals by switching to ice skating. This infact demonstrates that there is already a way for us to get to the Olympics. Secondly, he is aware that our sport, during the last presentation to the Program Commission, has been the first one to be excluded so it is necessary to play all our cards in the best way possible, seeing that he thinks we will probably not get a third chance. Also the choice of where to held the World Championships should have been made taking into account the fact that we would have received a visit by IOC members.

Marotta: He does not know whether the choice of using the two skaters was appropriate or not since he has received different feedbacks regarding this matter, but he is sure that this year the two IOC observers have paid close attention to our sport, making a careful evaluation and highlighting 3 points in our favour: Roller Skating is a sport for young people, it is an individual sport and it is spread all throughout the World. All of these aspects for him are a promising indication for getting in the Olympic Program 2020-2024. On December 19 in Lausanne there will be the presentation of the 8 sports to the Program Commission, the latter will prepare a document and this will be sent to the IOC Executive Board. The Board will evaluate the document on June 8, 2013. We have been advised to nominate as athlete's representative one athlete from Roller Speed Skating.

Wallace: IOC members have also stressed the athletes' health and safety, therefore she finds proper for FIRS to establish a hearing panel and a record of the different types of injuries that happen during World Championships.

ITEM 7: World Games Cali 2013

Marotta: Joaquim Gossow was not able to attend the Roller Speed Skating World Championships but has expressed IWGA's full solidarity to the Roller Skating world. Seeing that in November technical delegates will have the chance to check the status of the organization, Marotta invites the Presidents of the three committees to take part to the meetings and to select only the best athletes for participating to the next World Championships.

Pollard: He has some doubts regarding the works carried out in order to make the facilities adequate to host our sports, but he hopes the commitments taken will be fulfilled. In his opinion, our problem comes from the fact that, if only the best athletes will be selected, there will be only a few countries represented. He asks whether it is more convenient to open the participation to a wider number of Federations with a not excellent competitive level or to restrict the admission to athletes at a high level with a resulting podium of a maximum of one or two Federations. There is a lot of competitiveness among the sports to be admitted to these Games, and Roller Sports cannot afford to make mistakes.

Ferreira: He recommends that there should be a balance between the level of the participants and the number of Countries represented. If this principle is not respected, some Federations, not having the chance to get any positive result, could decide not to let their athletes participate.

ITEM 8: Panamerican Games - Toronto 2015

Pollard: He expresses his concerns regarding the future inclusion of our disciplines in the Panamerican Games from 2019. In his opinion, until now our participation has been secured by the presence in the PASO Board of Mario Vásquez Raña, who is now close to retirement. Further complications come from the fact that Roller Sports have been participating to the Games for a very long time and that other sports like rugby and golf are interested in stepping in, and these sports have both a female and male participation, just like Roller Sports do.

Ferreira: He stresses that, in order to maintain our sporting prowess in the American continent, it is necessary that international bodies know they have only one representative, that is the Panamerican Confederation. Therefore he asks the Executive Board to take a stand regarding the long-standing problem of the existence of the South American Confederation of Roller Sports, in open conflict with CPRS and that also includes the Catalan Federation of Roller Sports.

After a discussion regarding the measures taken in the past that did not lead to a good outcome and regarding the damages of both public image and reputation in the sports world that FIRS might suffer if the situation does not change, Ferreira presents the following motion, seconded by Marotta:

- 1) Each continent shall have only one representative that is the Continental Confederation, in the case of America, the Panamerican Confederation.
- 2) No Federation shall prevent its own athletes to take part to an event organized within its Continent without a valid reason.
- 3) All International Competitions with 2 or more participating Countries shall have the authorization of the related Technical Committee.

IN FAVOUR: ALL

AGAINST: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 9: Roller Games

Aracu: He presents a project that he's been developing, the Roller Games, a World Championships for all Roller Sports disciplines, held in the same location that will involve between 6,000 and 7,000 athletes and technicians. During the last SportAccord meeting he has had a meeting with a very big company, Helios, that took care of the bidding of the Olympics and that is very interested in the project. The year in which Roller Games could be held is 2017, Helios could find the candidatures and the Technical Committees could receive the proposal by 2013, so that they can organize their calendars. The whole Executive Board will be kept informed about the development of the project. He then asks to the Executive Board to vote his motion.

IN FAVOUR: ALL

AGAINST: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 10: Continental and World Championships

The President informs the Executive Board that Spain, as well as other Countries, have step forward to organize the World Championships every two years, alternating with the Continental Championships. After a long discussion centered on the actual economic opportunity needed to run such events, due to the world economic crisis, and on the importance for this decision to be made also by the National Federations, seeing that they are directly involved in managing the sports activities, the President asks to bring the proposal to the FIRS Congress of February 2013. It was also pointed out that the decision will not affect Inline Hockey seeing that there are no Continental Championships for said discipline.

ITEM 11: Venues and dates of the next World Championships

The Executive Board members start up a heated discussion regarding the calendar of the next World Championships.

Strucksberg: He analyzes the table of the next Championships and lists their appointment until 2015 even though many countries have withdrawn their candidature.

Aracu: He affirms that the method used is completely wrong because the candidatures shall be presented to the Assemblies of each Technical Committee, voted, and finally approved by FIRS, as stated in the Statutes, and he wants to be sure that that was what happened for the Rink Hockey Championships. He thinks this is an essential point of the management of an International Federation and that decisions concerning this aspect should be made by the Executive Board on proposal of the Technical Committees.

He also finds unacceptable all the withdrawals, in his opinion caused by an inadequate management.

Pollard: He explains that Roller Figure Skating Championships have been assigned up to 2015, while for the year 2017 it will be decided in the Assembly of this year. He claims the right to make an urgent decision within the Technical Committee and without consulting the Assembly when a candidature of organizing a Championships is withdrawn in the middle of the year. He also states, and **Mrs. Leftwich** agrees with him, that the last Assembly has already voted for these appointments.

Portier: He explains that Championships for 2013 have been assigned to California junior/senior, women/men, but he has received candidatures up to 2016.

Marotta: He would like to find a temporary solution, that is approving the assignment of the next Championships while waiting for the Statutes to be amended. In the new Statutes, the duty of assigning the World Championships is of competence of the Executive Board, in order to avoid assignments with a political connotation or not dictated by logic. He also explains that, in case the Assembly of a discipline does not approve the assignment of a Championship and there are no alternative options, the Executive Board shall take the final decision, in the athlete's best interest.

ITEM 12: TV Rights

Strucksberg: He asks to deal with the revenue-sharing between FIRS and CIRH of the TV rights of the 2011 and 2013 Rink Hockey World Championships. In the past there have been many issues between the TV companies and the Championships Organizing Committees, so he thinks this aspect should be regulated and that amendments should be made to the Statutes and Bylaws since the current ones state that it is the Technical Committee who handles the relationships with the Organizing Committees. He also stresses how much the Committee needs a share of TV rights in order to carry out its activities.

Aracu: He points out that, since the beginning of his mandate as FIRS President, the shares coming from TV rights have doubled, and explains that the Statutes do not state that part of these rights should be destined to the Technical Committees; the revenue-sharing should be discussed in terms of what it is needed and not demanded. TV rights are integral part of the agreements concluded between FIRS and the Organizing Committees, hence these agreements shall be signed by the President, as FIRS legal representative.

Ferreira: He believes FIRS should be managed as a company, by promoting its brand and its unity before the whole world and particularly before the IOC. The Technical Committees are in charge of managing the technical aspect.

Pollard: He believes contracts are outdated because they remained unchanged for 20-25 years. In his opinion it is necessary to prepare a single contract adequate for all the disciplines.

Marotta: He puts the proposal by Mr. Aracu, seconded by Mr. Ferreira, to vote: When appointing a World Championship, a general contract shall be signed by three parties: the President, the Technical Committee and the Organizing Committee. The general contract shall consider a specific appendix for each discipline.

IN FAVOUR: ALL

AGAINST: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 13: Inline Hockey – Asian Games

Portier: Upon request and reminder by the Iran Roller Skating Federation, he asks for information regarding the participation of Roller Sports to the Asian Games and the possible inclusion of Inline Hockey in the program.

Marotta: He is not sure whether or not the participation of Roller Figure Skating and Roller Speed Skating to the Games will be renewed. When he will know for sure that these disciplines will be admitted to participate, he will try to ask the inclusion of Inline Hockey.

Leftwich: She points out that inline Hockey is very popular in Asia and that Asian Inline Hockey teams are very strong, so it could be a better idea to wager on this discipline and not on the others.

Ferreira: He believes the issue is not the admission to the present Games, but the need to increase the number of affiliated Federations. FIRS must work in order to pursue this objective, on a political, technical and financial level.

Aracu: He agrees with Ferreira's remarks and believes that the Ambassador's Project could give a great contribution.

ITEM 14: Roller Derby

Marotta: He starts by saying that the Executive Board needs to analyze the situation of the 5 new disciplines. In his opinion, for a new discipline to be officially recognized, it must have at least 20 affiliated National Federations.

FIRS is the only governing body for the Roller Sports disciplines recognized by IOC but, in order to keep this title, National Federations must accept also the new disciplines. Being CIC President, Mr. Marotta cannot take care of 6 disciplines as he has done in the previous years, therefore he suggests to form some sub-commissions within the Technical Committees and to include in the Executive Board one representative for each new discipline.

Pollard: He knows very well Roller Derby, a very popular sport in the United States, but in case he's not re-elected, he does not think his successor will be able to take care of it.

Marotta: He presents the following motion, seconded by Ferreira;

Two subcommissions for Alpine and Downhill shall be created within CIC, and one for Freestyle within CIPA. The President shall have special mandate to get in touch with the Skateboarding associations in order to get official recognition and to form an independent committee with a representative in FIRS Executive Board. Jim Pollard shall have special mandate to confirm the Countries involved in Roller Derby and to propose to the Executive Board a management program for this discipline.

IN FAVOUR: ALL

AGAINST: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 15: New affiliations and Regulation of the payment of FIRS fees

Marotta: He asks for the approval of the new FIRS affiliations of Serbia, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Cyprus and Malaysia.

Portier: He explains that two associations from Poland and Sweden have asked for an affiliation, independent from the already existing National Federations, for the discipline of Inline Hockey. The official National Federations have not answered to the numerous communications sent by the two associations, as demonstrated by the work carried out by Valerie.

Gila: She believes that Olympic Committees in general prefer to recognize only one official Federation per Country.

Leftwich: She proposes, seconded by Mrs. Gila, to recognize these associations today, as they have provided all the necessary documentation.

Aracu: He seeks mediation by asking to send a request for the official Federations to accept these new disciplines, with a maximum response time of 30 days. If the response will be negative, the two new Federations will be automatically recognized.

New affiliations and the motion by Leftwich and Aracu are approved unanimously.

Marotta: He presents a second issue regarding the topic: the non-payment of FIRS affiliation fees. It is resolved to adhere strictly to what established in the Statutes: FIRS Secretariat will send a letter asking for the affiliation fees, the non-payment will cause the suspension of the activities of the National Federation, that won't be allowed to vote or to participate to the World Championships.

ITEM 16: Financial support to EB Members

Strucksberg: He introduces the motion regarding the payment of the travel expenses of the FIRS Vice President during the Executive Board meetings.

Aracu: He explains that the Statutes state that those expenses shall be covered by the belonging Federation but, whenever possible, FIRS has always done its best to meet the needs of the First Vice President.

Wallace: She believes that all those who work for FIRS should get reimbursements, including the First Vice President, the Medical Commission President, and the Athlete's Representative, while the Presidents of the Technical Committees' expenses should be covered by the Committees and the Presidents of the Confederations. She does not think it is fair for these expenses to be imposed to the National Federations.

Ferreira: He stresses that, this being a statutory reform, it is impossible to make a decision herein: amendments to the Statutes must be approved by the Congress.

Marotta: He states that most of the work carried out by the Board Members is voluntary and that the management of the Secretariat is covered by the Italian Federation, but if FIRS must pay the expenses for the members, therefore changing the expenditures of FIRS, it will be necessary also a change in its incomes.

The discussion ends by deciding to re-examine this topic of the bylaws during the revision of the Statutes.

ITEM 17/18: FIRS Antidoping Policy and WADA Compliance/Medical Commission

Wallace: see attachment n° 9

After the examination of the steps of the anti-doping procedures, a FIRS Panel is established. In compliance with WADA regulations, the Panel must be composed by 3 people: one member from the Medical Commission and two from the Executive Board with an interest in anti-doping but not coming from the discipline of the examined athlete.

FIRS Panel is formed by:

- **Pat Wallace**
- **Roberto Marotta**
- **Jim Pollard**

In case the examined athlete comes from Figure Skating or Speed Skating, the substitute member will be Harro Strucksberg.

The proposal by Pat, seconded by Marotta, is put to vote.

IN FAVOUR: ALL

AGAINST: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Wallace: She explains what is the process to be taken in order to sanction an athlete and reaffirms that FIRS Anti-doping Policy is in compliance with WADA and approved by it. She would like a member of the Medical Commission, but it must not be a Continental Vice President, to be officially included in the Executive Board. She also adds that it is necessary to increase the number of tests performed for the other disciplines that are not Roller Speed Skating.

ITEM 19: Athletes' Commission

Garvey: see attachment n° 10

The document prepared following the Athlete's Forum in Colorado Springs is analyzed by the Executive Board, also under the suggestions of the IOC members, who gave their feedback during their recent visit. The document is emended and is going to be rewritten and sent to all EB members by e-mail.

ITEM 20: Approval of FIRS financial statement 2011 and FIRS budget 2013

See attached document n° 11

Aracu: He asks for the approval of FIRS financial statement for 2011 and FIRS budget for 2013, seconded by Ferreria.

IN FAVOUR: ALL

AGAINST: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 21: Venue and date of the 2013 FIRS Ordinary Congress

Aracu: In order to meet the needs of some members of the Executive Board, he proposes two possible dates for the Congress that will be held in Rome: February 16/17 and February 22/23. The final date will be communicated as soon as possible.

ITEM 22: Miscellaneous

Marotta: He briefly explains a proposal received by the company Four Global for a possible collaboration to organize an event open to all the roller disciplines in London. The proposal is not put to vote.

Following an affiliation request by disciplines such as Roll Ball and Roller Tennis, it is reiterated that requests will be considered only if the discipline is practiced by a number of at least 20 Federations.

Ferreira: see attached document n° 12

Ferreira: He asks to put in the minutes the letter received by the Argentinian Confederation. They ask the Executive Board to establish a rule that states that it is possible to form a parallel National Federation to the official one only with the endorsement by the National Federation, the Continental Confederation and FIRS.

Pollard: He asks for an official letter by the President that gives him mandate to take care of Freestyle and Roller Derby.

Portier: He has received an e-mail by the Swedish Sport Authority that certifies that Inline Hockey is under the Ice Hockey Federation.

Aracu: He thanks all the present members for the great work carried out during the meeting.