

FIRS Executive Board Meeting

February 19, 2015 – 14h30

February 20, 2015 – 10h00

FIRS Headquarters

Viale Tiziano 74 – 00196 Rome (Italy)

Members in attendance:

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| • Sabatino Aracu | <i>President</i> |
| • Armando Quintanilla | <i>First Vice President</i> |
| • Carlos Orlando Ferreira | <i>CPRS President</i> |
| • Fernando Claro | <i>CERS President</i> |
| • Guoyong Liu | <i>CARS President (second day)</i> |
| • Patricia Wallace | <i>OCRS President</i> |
| • Roberto Marotta | <i>ACRS Commissioner and FIRS Secretary General</i> |
| • Laura Morandi | <i>Vice Secretary General</i> |
| • Margaret Brooks | <i>CIPA Chairman</i> |
| • Gilbert Portier | <i>CIRILH Chairman</i> |
| • Harro Strucksberg | <i>CIRH Chairman</i> |
| • Jorge Roldan | <i>CIC Chairman</i> |
| • Olivier Pascal | <i>Inline Aggressive Chairman</i> |
| • Sigfried Zistler | <i>CIRA Chairman (from 3.30pm of the first day)</i> |
| • Simone Masserini | <i>Corporate Advisor</i> |
| • Simona Mercuri | <i>Communication Manager</i> |
| • Carmelo Paniagua | <i>Protocol Manager</i> |
| • Lina Maria Lizcano | <i>General Affairs</i> |
| • Alessandra Lunadei | <i>General Affairs</i> |
| • Caterina Noto | <i>General Affairs</i> |
| • Sergio Sacripanti | <i>General Affairs</i> |

Guests:

- | | |
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| • Alberto Lastrucci | <i>CIRILH Member</i> |
| • Ricardo Araujo | <i>CERS Vice Secretary General/Interpreter</i> |
| • Qiang | <i>CARS Secretary General Interpreter (second day)</i> |

1. Welcome of the President

The FIRS President welcomes all those attending and, while waiting for the arrival of the President of the Italian Olympic Committee Roberto Malagò, introduces all the Executive Board members. Among them there are some new names: CIC Chairman Jorge Roldán, Inline Aggressive chairman Olivier Pascal,. There are also two new roles: Carmelo Paniagua has been appointed FIRS Protocol Manager and Simone Masserini, manager of Filmmaster, an agency that organizes very important events (including the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro), has been appointed FIRS Corporate Advisor.

The welcome is then extended to the guests: CERS Vice Secretary Ricardo Araújo and CIRILH Member Alberto Lastrucci.

CONI President Roberto Malagò enters the room and greets all the attendees and explains why he is happy to attend the meeting:

1. It is appropriate and respectful: the CONI has been having some issues, but a recent study made by the Danish National Olympic Committee shows that it is most important Olympic Committee in the World thanks to its 100 years of history and to the fact that Italy is sixth in the general Olympic medal list. The CONI gives the same importance to all its 64 sporting disciplines, be it Olympic or non-Olympic. The CONI has this prestige because Italy has defended one fundamental principle: the non-existence of the Ministry of Sports: this makes the CONI the only sporting body in Italy and this is its strength.
2. The second reason is his personal friendship with President Aracu, regardless of each other's mandates.
3. The third consideration is CONI's resume of international relations: in the past the IOC had 6 Italian members. Today there are 4 of them: Franco Carraro, Mario Pescante and Ottavio Cinquanta, that will leave IOC in 3 years. Also because of this there was the candidature of the city of Rome for the 2024 Olympic Games: it will be a long challenge that will end in September 2017 against Boston and possibly a candidature from a French city and some other one. If Italy is going to win e will be given the chance to choose a discipline it will most definitely be Roller Sports.

Aracu thanks Mr. Malagò for his loyalty and his promise, expressing the wish of having Rome as WRG test-event venue before 2014.

Malagò leaves the floor at 10,35 AM.

2. Approval of the previous minutes

In view of the large number of items to be discusses, FIRS Secretary General Roberto Marotta asks all the attendees to take the floor only once per item.

CARS President Secretary General Huang Qiang clarifies that the FIRS was excluded from the Asian Games not because it failed to reach the sufficient number of participating countries, but because Korea, the Organizing Country, failed to make a request. This part will therefore be amended.

Claro pinpoints that the verbal introduction to his speech has not been precisely reported maybe because of issues with the audio recording, but this would not constitute a reason to not approve the minutes anyway.

Portier complains about having received the minutes 7 months after the meeting took place and that what was written did not correspond to what was in his report and that the corrections he sent were not included in the final document.

Marotta explains that the amount of work for the FIRS Secretariat has to carry out has increased considerably because the disciplines went from 4 to 9. The delay in submitting the minutes is to ascribe to the organization of the presence of the FIRS in the Youth Olympics in Nanjing, something that required time and resources. He also points out that the minutes summarize what has been said during a meeting/event, and this cannot be changed with something sent afterwards. The changes Portier proposed will be accepted anyway.

After further observations, which are all acknowledged, the approval of the minutes of the 2014 FIRS Executive Board Meeting of 14th February 2014 are put to vote.

PRO: 6

CON: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 3 (Ferreira because he wasn't there, Strucksberg and Portier)

The minutes of the 2014 FIRS Executive Board Meeting are approved.

3. Report of the President

President Aracu is puzzled by the abstentions during the previous voting and firmly says that he will not allow the progress of the FIRS to stop because of bureaucracy or dislike of someone, and he will use any licit way to ensure this.

On the folders given to each attendee there is a slogan: "We are already in the Future". This is because what has been done during the past two years has never been done in the previous 90 years. The presence at Congress of a IOC Observer, or the ARISF President, of the IWGA President, of the ASOIF President, the presentation of the candidatures for the FIRS Roller Games with the same procedure used by prominent sporting Federations such as the FIFA, etc. turns what used to be just dreams into a reality.

The FIRS is not a 4 disciplines Federation anymore, it now manages many other that shall not be considered second to any other because they (Freestyle and Skateboarding in particular) will go to the Olympics.

Some disciplines, such as Roller Artistic Skating and Roller Speed Skating, are outdated and in need of a restyling so that we can go to the Roller Games in a new way. It is understandable having to face resistance by part of the technical managers of that disciplines, seeing that they are tied to the tradition of their sport, but the renewal process is now becoming vital and cannot be stopped.

It is also not possible having for the same discipline continental regulations that are different from the international ones. This goes against the FIRS Statutes and it cannot be accepted: either there is collaboration or we cannot work together.

There is still so much to do: the FIRS Bylaws have yet to be completed. The disciplinary regulations, whose draft has been submitted by Ignazio Gonzalez of the Real Federación Española de Patinaje, also are not finished yet. There will be an evolution of our informatics system, with the revamping of the FIRS website and the creation of an Intranet platform.

Aracu introduces the topic of the establishment of the FIRS official headquarters in another country, an issue that has already been addressed in the past because of several requests in this regard: everyone agrees on the importance of being closer to the IOC headquarters. The idea is to establish the new headquarters somewhere else than Rome, first because the President in the future could change and

secondly because the place should be more international. Everybody hopes that the choice will be the Maison du Sport in Lausanne (Switzerland), because of the proximity with the IOC. The whole Executive Board approves with satisfaction this proposal.

Also virtual offices shall be taken into consideration: with a PC and Skype you can have contacts all around the globe.

The organization of the future shall be more managerial with the attribution of more mandates.

The quality of the FIRS World Championships shall improve more and more, not like in the past when they were managed by the Technical Committees. The bidding procedures that have been implemented fully explain what an Organizing Committee must do.

This year for the very first time the TV rights of the FIRS World Roller Speed Skating Championships in Rosario (Argentina) have been sold to France, Germany, Holland and Hungary and a private Croatian TV Broadcaster has filmed and broadcasted, as an experiment, all the World Championships and this has been very successful. What the FIRS wants for its future is broadcasting its World Championships in more than 100 countries.

Some other events, such as the World Cup, need to be modernized. The FIRS is thinking about establishing a Roller Cup in 6 stages in cities like Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, London, Rome, Paris, Dubai and Shanghai with Roller Freestyle, Skateboarding, an evening of Roller Artistic Skating and a Roller Marathon final

President Aracu ends his report stressing how important Roller Sports have become and how much he wants a loyal and fair attitude by everyone.

The issue with the combined having being cancelled from the programme of the World Championships but still being made in the European Championships is addressed. CERS President Fernando Claro, after having received clarifications about during which occasion this decision was made (during the 2014 World Championships in Reus, and all the CIPA agreed), states that he has always followed the international technical rules at international level and, as CERS President, he does not allow the implementation of rules that he is not aware of and that go against the international regulations. In conclusion, Aracu announces that it is decided to cancel the combined competitions from all international events.

Strucksberg believes the issue stems also from the lack of updated bylaws, but President Aracu stresses that the FIRS Statutes prevail over any other document and the bylaws shall be in compliance with them.

4. Report of the Secretary General

Even though he has been Secretary General for 25 years, Marotta stresses that he would have never expected to have to deal with such huge amount of work caused by the Federation now having 9 disciplines, therefore it is not always easy to address each one of the thousands of e-mails coming from all over the World.

2014 has been a very intense year:

- The Youth Olympics in Nanjing showed that Roller Sports are the sport of the 21st Century.
- The World Championships in Rosario and Reus have been very successful.
- The FIRS was busy evaluating the bidding candidatures of the FIRS WRG that will maybe change the organization of the future FIRS World championships.
- It is vital that National Federations everywhere start opening their doors to the new disciplines: the FIRS is no longer the International Federation of Roller Skating, but of all Roller Sports.
- In the Wroclaw's 2017 World Games Roller Sports will constitute the most important and entertaining spectacle. Mr. Perurena's presence in Rome is a proof of this.

- There have been many request of affiliation from different countries and this shows how much interest the roller disciplines can raise. 5 new countries are asking to be affiliated and 8 others will be ratified during Congress.

Aracu adds that in 2017 the FIRS will be included in the University Games.

5. Ratification of some offices

Auditor

Marotta calls for the ratification of the appointment of the new FIRS Auditor, Mr. Marcelo Martinez, an auditor certified by the Argentinean Government (all credentials have been verified). Claro states that the function of auditor is to be certified not by a government or a political body: in Europe there is the Auditors Order. Marcelo Martinez's certification has been requested but up to date has not been submitted therefore Claro asks to see it now. The issue is very serious and shall not be overlooked seeing that the FIRS has been founded in Switzerland and is registered in the Swiss registry and this means that the law to be applied shall be the Swiss one unless the Congress decides that, starting from a specific date, seeing that the President is Italian, the FIRS goes under the Italian law. There was not anything about this in the previous minutes. The Handball Confederation in Switzerland has one internal auditor and two external ones, the Volleyball one has an internal treasurer and two external auditors, the same goes with the Basketball Federation, therefore Claro suggests to appoint an official internal auditor, even Italian seeing that the FIRS HQ are in Italy, Europe, therefore the laws are the same. In Switzerland there are very strict auditing norms and also the art. 69 and 70 of the Italian Civil Code states that is an internal auditor makes an audit and another country wants to see it, it can be done with an external auditor. Seeing all of this, Claro's vote is a con.

Paniagua says that the Auditor they are appointing is internal and will be at the service of the FIRS. Clearly there can be external auditors that can certify what has been declared by the internal auditor. Marotta stresses that the nominated auditor has been certified by the Argentinean Government, and this nomination is in compliance with the FIRS Statutes, in the future this process can be improved with the certification by an external Auditor Order.

The nomination of Marcelo Martinez as FIRS Auditor is put to vote.

PRO: 5

CON: 3 (Claro, Brooks, Portier)

ABSTENTIONS: 1 (Strucksberg)

Approved by majority.

Protocol Manager

Carmelo Paniagua, RFEP President, has been nominated FIRS Protocol Manager by President Aracu, in compliance with the FIRS Statutes. Paniagua, which is considered often as a very formal person, has been chosen because of his long-lasting knowledge of the Roller World, and the vision of someone outside of this World could not be successful. He will work with a team that will support him.

Ferreira asks how long these nominations will last and President Aracu confirms that the nominations, that have been granted by him in compliance with the new FIRS Statutes, will last until the end of his mandate (31/12/2016).

The nomination of Carmelo Paniagua as FIRS Protocol Manager is put to vote.

Unanimously approved.

CIC Chairman

FIRS Secretary General Roberto Marotta explains that Jorge Ivan Roldán Perez has been nominated as new CIC Chairman following the Marotta's resignation from this role.

The Nomination of Roldán as CIC Chairman is put to vote.

Approved unanimously with Roldán's abstention.

Inline Aggressive Chairman

Olivier Pascal's nomination as Chairman of the Inline Aggressive Technical Committee is presented to the Executive Board. Aracu explains that Olivier Pascal organizes important sporting events and has created the FISE (Fédération Internationale de Sports Extremes) that organizes very successful events. He has great experience in Inline Roller Freestyle, a discipline that needs to be pushed and that brings life to two worlds that must work together: Skateboarding and Freestyle.

Marotta explains to those who do not really know what it is that Freestyle as everybody know it is the one with the cones, while Pascal's discipline is called Freestyle Aggressive, but a new name shall be found because aggressive somewhat has a negative connotation. This discipline is now being included among the nine managed by FIRS and shall be separated from the traditional Freestyle. Pascal is today recognized as Chairman of this new discipline.

Pascal Olivier thanks the FIRS for being welcomed in the Roller Sports World. The term "aggressive" may not be positive, but the FIRS can surely find new strength by joining the action sports community.

The nomination of Olivier Pascal as Inline Aggressive Technical Committee Chairman is put to vote.

Approved unanimously.

Representative of the Sub-Saharan French Speaking African Countries

Aracu explains that this is just a temporary mandate, an experiment in Togo with Mr. Marziano Bianchi, a diplomat that is about to end his activity as Italian Consul. The FIRS is currently trying to create something in this French speaking part of Africa. Mr. Bianchi is the new President of the Federation in Togo, and the local Government and Olympic Committee are about to sign a protocol with him.

The nomination of Mr. Marziano Bianchi as Representative of the Sub-Saharan French Speaking African Countries is put to vote.

Approved unanimously.

CIC Member

Aracu states that, after having talked to Roldán, he has decided to nominate Mr. Ching Lung Huang from the Chinese Taipei Roller Sports Federation as new CIC member.

The nomination of Mr. Ching Lung Huang as CIC Member is put to vote.

Approved unanimously.

CIC Representative for the Masters Category

Aracu informs the floor also about the nomination of Mr. Sergio Landi as CIC Responsible for the Masters Category. It is now very important having a Representative to this category that supports Roldán, and Mr. Landi proposed himself in order to do something bigger.

The nomination of Mr. Sergio Landi as CIC Responsible for the Masters Category is put to vote.

Approved unanimously.

6. Youth Olympics Report

Aracu explains how, after his election, IOC President Thomas Bach has designed the SportsLab with four disciplines: Free Climbing, Wushu, Skateboarding and Roller Speed Skating. Two disciplines out of 4 belong to the FIRS, that was however denied the organization of the Skateboarding seeing that it did not have any experience in events of such discipline. Gary Ream has organized Skateboarding competitions as best as he could, bringing low-level athletes. The FIRS brought instead the best athletes, World Champions, that together with Roldán have been serious, professional and very good, have made performances, have taught to kids and they have been very appreciated. During the SportsLab, Roller Speed Skating had the biggest number of spectators and the strongest appeal, a work that has been highly appreciated by the media all over the World, insomuch that Nanjing requested a meeting with the FIRS during which President Aracu signed a memorandum of understanding with the Mayor of the city and the President of the Youth Olympics Organizing Committee that includes a series of events from 2015 to 2019 that involve Roller Speed Skating, Inline Hockey and the WRG. The IOC is perfectly aware of this and also Kit McConnel and Christophe Dubi have expressed their appreciation.

Strucksberg asks whether in Nanjing the issue with the FIRS or the ISF in charge of Skateboarding has been properly addressed, stressing how it's the IOC usual policy making promises and then not keeping them. Aracu confirms that they have calmly talked about it and that the IOC realized that the ISF did not bring to the SportsLab what they expected. Simone Masserini and Rich Birch have carried out some great work and during the meeting with the IOC many things have changed, a glimmer of discussion has been initiated. SportAccord will do an investigation and will discipline this point.

7. Report of the World Championships 2014

Marotta asks all the FIRS Technical Committee Chairmen to report on their respective World Championships highlighting eventual issues.

Portier complains that is report, even though was sent in a timely manner, has not been included in the agenda, but Marotta points out that it actually is there, on page 153 of the folder.

Portier continues stating that the 2014 World Inline Hockey Championships has been extremely difficult even though many countries have attended; because of the high number of participating nations, a smaller and lower-level second rink has been used and this has created some issues. With such high participation it will not be easy organizing both Senior and Junior Championships at the same time in the future and using two rinks at the same time as well.

For 2015 the change of the dates will create many problems because the Junior athletes will not come and there will be less countries attending.

Portier proposes also two Senior Championships or two different ones for Junior and Senior.

Paniagua, after having been in Toulouse, thinks it is very difficult organizing World Championships with four categories, forcing the competitions to be from 6 AM to midnight, the athletes to move from venues that are more than 30 KM far from each other and with rinks that are not adequate. If such an image is

conveyed to the World, everything will be useless, not matter how hard the work has been. The Championships shall be modern and appealing, the countries interested in organizing these events are many, so new formats shall be found.

Claro agrees with Paniagua and states that, given the worldwide economic crisis, the World Championships should be staged every two years alternating them with the Continental ones.

Portier agrees with Claro but he also wonders whether African, Asian and Oceanic Championships could really happen and asks everyone to reflect about this.

President Aracu and Chairman Portier start discussing about the next World Inline Hockey Championships: Aracu says that this event has been totally handled by the CIRILH except for the contractual part and accuses CIRILH member Keith Knoll of having insulted the FIRS and him insomuch that legal actions will be made. The withdrawal of Mendoza as venue of the next Championships was caused by the CIRILH's wrong approach that has stonewalled the choice of the hotels by inviting the nations attending to choose different and cheaper hotels. This has led Mendoza to withdraw the request and the consequent chaos. Such behavior will not be tolerated anymore, the rules set out by the new FIRS Statutes shall be accepted whether one likes it or not.

Portier says that Mendoza was chosen by the Argentinean Federation and he had only inspected the venue which resulted adequate to host the event. This happened before the signing of the contract which was changed last-minute and signed in November despite the fact that the venue was chosen in June. Said contract was no longer accepted by the Organizer.

Aracu lets everybody know that once the official hotels list was sent out, the CIRILH had written to all the Federations telling them not to lodge in the official hotels since they were too expensive and to find other solutions and this has led to Mendoza's withdrawal.

Portier insists that both last year's Toulouse and this year's Mendoza contracts were signed too late.

Marotta explains that FIRS tries to foster the rotation of the Continents when selecting a venue, and sometimes in order to do so the Federations chosen are not exactly efficient from an organizational point of view. Of course this was not Argentina's case that organized a very successful Roller Speed Skating Championship in 2014. It is clear that the Organizers get part of their income from the hotels, as it happens worldwide. If the CIRILH, by contacting the Federations writing letters to everybody, sabotaged the hotels in Mendoza this was not FIRS' fault. Organizing at a high level is very expensive, therefore the FIRS needs collaboration not terrorism.

Paniagua says that the information received by the Spanish Federation stated that hotel prices in Argentina were too high and this was said since June in Toulouse: the countries said they were not going to attend for this reason and for the e-mails received.

Now Rosario has been chosen and everybody shall help the Organizer to stage a respectable Championship. If a boycott happens, it will be a fiasco.

Strucksberg says once again that special attention shall be given to the Organization of the future Championships, the contracts are very important and they will probably have to be reviewed because there is a chance there won't be organizers in the future. To date, no requests of organization have been submitted for the Ladies Rink Hockey Championships.

Aracu ends the discussion stating that the FIRS shall be able to sell its events only also visiting venues and hotels before any appointment, otherwise it shows a lack of professionalism.

The FIRS shall take the responsibility of deciding what the hosting city will be and the guarantees shall always come from the administrations because the Federations are not financially reliable.

LUNCH BREAK

The meeting starts with Roldán's intervention: he thinks it is not fair giving the responsibility to a city's municipality if some aspects of the organization of a World Championships do not go well; the Technical Committee Chairman shall take responsibility and cooperate by meeting any possible need therefore he invites all his fellow Chairmen to be pro-active, also in the organization of the Championship in Argentina, where the Organizer is willing to cooperate.

Strucksberg begins his report with a proposal of participation of 24 teams in the future Roller Games and the use of two rinks for seven days of competition. He also adds that Rink Hockey has the same problems of Inline Hockey with regards to the A and B Championships and the attendance of many European countries that cannot afford to take part in World and Continental Championships.

Aracu believes a solution or an alternative to the current format shall be found. Also, competitions with a significant technical difference between teams shall be avoided because this harms the image of the Championship. This item should be discussed with the European Committee, seeing that 90% of Rink Hockey is composed by European teams, therefore it is resolved that in two months the FIRS will organize a meeting to solve this issue.

Claro says that Europe and the other countries worldwide shall use the same voice and comply with the same regulations, only by doing this the success of this discipline, which is the base of the FIRS and that needs to be further developed in order to match the popularity of Artistic and Inline Hockey, can be guaranteed.

Portier also adds that similar issues are starting to arise with the Inline Hockey therefore meetings shall be organized also for this discipline.

Artistic Technical Committee Chairman Margaret Brooks considers the 2014 World Roller Artistic Championships as one of the best and well organized events, with an outstanding attendance of skaters. Regarding the 2015 World Roller Artistic Skating Championships, she needs more information from the Colombian Federation and also adds that she did not sign the contract because the version she received had some discrepancies with the final version.

She thanks the FIRS for the organization of an International Seminar for Artistic Judges that will take place in April in Riccione (Italy).

In this regard, Aracu adds that other seminars shall be staged also for the other disciplines so as to make the judges/referees grow at international level. Also, it would be important making some seminars for managers.

8. Roller Games

Aracu says that everything has already been said about this item. During the Congress there will be two cities will present their candidatures to host and the Executive Board will take the final decision. Surely the missed inspection by the FIRS Commission on the venues of the city of Lima is a point against this candidature even though Aracu guarantees its validity seeing that he has directly inspected the venue. Regarding the decision of the Executive Board, Aracu requests the members their discretion and serenity. This will be the first edition of the World Roller Games, a sort of template event, a basis for the future editions. The WRG will be broadcasted in 100 countries worldwide, therefore the final decision shall be well thought of by the EB in 30 minutes. Later, in a month, a detailed contract shall be drafted.

Also the FIRS Congress will change its format, it shall be held during the WRG taking advantage of the presence of everyone.

9. Roller Games

Aracu explains how the future path of the FIRS is taking shape during these days: a possible inclusion in the 2016 SportsLab in Rio with a parallel SportsLab in Rocina destined to the kids that live in this favela. The Argentinean Olympic Committee will do its best to be present in Buenos Aires. On March 11, there will be a meeting in Lausanne for the Tokyo 2020 – Skateboarding project.

During the following months, the FIRS will be in contact with the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee, no covered venues will be requested, several solutions are available: Roller Marathon, Freestyle Aggressive and Skateboarding.

Presentation of the Tokyo 2020 video.

Paniagua explains that after the Tokyo 2020 meeting in Montecarlo he had a conversation with Perurena who considers Roller Sports very appealing so it is therefore important how this notion will be conveyed. The sport that will be included shall have an interesting programme, reduced costs and less infrastructures. Roller Sports meet all these criteria, and if the Roller Games go well, it will be a great showcase opportunity of this.

Portier is afraid that the Japanese NOC has decided to include 4 out of the 8 disciplines proposed, and Roller Sports did not make the cut.

Aracu says that no sport has been officially chosen, but the first will surely be Baseball seeing that it is Japan's national sport. There have been some talks also about the inclusion of Karate, and even though Bach said that the Organizing Committees will have freedom of choice the IOC power on the final decision is still great.

The IOC's attitude after Nanjing has deeply changed: the appeal that Roller Speed Skating has demonstrated was seen by everyone and the FIRS will keep on pushing this discipline with fairness and elegance. Mr. Wassmer's presence in the FIRS Congress is substantial seeing that he is deputy of Kit McConnel.

Marotta stresses that the March 11 meeting in Lausanne was requested by the IOC before the Skateboarding meeting in Sochi, so this is a good sign.

At 3.50PM Inline Alpine Chairman Sigi Zistler joins the meeting introduced by Aracu. He quickly makes his report: Starting from January 2015 the Alpine is a full-fledged discipline of the FIRS. It is a very fast-growing discipline and a lot of Federations are showing interest towards it. Alpine can be very appealing for TV broadcasting and does not require specific equipment apart from fixing poles on a base to do the slalom. The last Championship was held in Germany with the presence of FIRS Secretary General Roberto Marotta and was very successful with around 2,000 spectators and 150 athletes. Next year one event will be in Spain, one in Italy, one in Austria, one in Germany and two in Czech Republic: among these, there are also European Championships, therefore there is a lot of interest in being part of the WRG.

10. Panamerican Games – Toronto 2015

Ferreira says that as President of the Panamerican Association, he had the chance to attend some meetings with the representatives of South American countries.

The Panamerican Games are very important for our disciplines, because they could take them to the Olympic Games. Last year in Lausanne, on November 18, Thomas Bach made a revolution by presenting 40 proposals to modernize the Olympic Games; this proposals have been discussed and approved. There has been a revolution also in the TV broadcasting, there are not organizing cities anymore but organizing countries and non-Olympic games have been inserted starting from Tokyo 2020.

In this new Olympic set up, new paths can be followed: talking to the Organizing Committees that have the great power of inviting a non-Olympic sport for example, that's why the FIRS should speak with the Tokyo Organizing Committee.

Rome is currently presenting its candidature to host the Olympic Games and that would be great seeing that through the good relationships the CONI has, Roller Sports could easily be included. Ricci Bitti is the most important President, he's Italian and he's the right interlocutor.

Work is in progress in order to make Lima able to submit a candidature to host the Panamerican Games and this proposal will be brought to Toronto.

Ferreira also asks a minute of silence during the FIRS Congress in order to honor Mr. Vazquez Raña who dedicated his entire life to sports, was appointed with many official mandates and, above all, has always worked to promote the Panamerican Games. He left a lot of money in the Federation's account. For Toronto everything is in place: Roller Artistic Skating will be staged indoor in a venue that has been prepared with great attention to every detail.

Si sta lavorando perché Lima si possa candidare per i giochi panamericani e questa proposta verrà portata a Toronto. 8 medals will be awarded to Artistic and 6 for Speed, while there will be 40 athletes for Speed (20 men and 20 ladies), and 20 for Artistic (10 men and 10 ladies). A list of the judges that will have to ratify the rankings will be presented. Ferreira expects a big event.

11. Universiade 2017

Aracu considers this as a great achievement following years of expectations. 2017 will be the turning point with the World Roller Games, the World Games and the University Games. The Chinese Taipei Roller Sports Federation was very cooperative, they worked with the local Olympic committee and built two tracks in Taipei City, one for competitions and one for the warming up. FISU Secretary General came to Rome to reach an agreement: these Games are specifically interests of the Roller Artistic Skating athletes seeing that most of them are university students.

12. World Games 2017

Marotta informs everybody that Wroclaw is building a track based on a layout provided by the FIRS because they did not have one. Perurena, who is part of the Olympic Commission, will be the messenger of the FIRS in the IOC because he will support the notion that all the last sports that have been included in the Olympic Games came from the World Games. Great participation should come from the Federations that should be honored to send their best athletes that have qualified during the previous World Championships, but it is not always like this: in the World Games in Cali, the top athletes denied

their participation so less qualified athletes attended in their place. The affiliated Federations shall understand the importance of the World Games.

13. Candidatures and ratifications of the next World Championships 2016

Marotta confirms the following World Championships for the year 2015:

- Cali for Artistic Skating from September 14 to 27.
- Freestyle in Italy, venue to be decided, possibly Milan.
- Inline Hockey in Rosario (Argentina) from June 7 to 21.
- Rink Hockey in La Roche sur Yon (France) from June 20 to 27.
- Under 20 Rink Hockey: Spain confirms Vilanova as venue, from mid-September to the end of the month, but the dates are still to be confirmed. Strucksberg suggests to be careful when selecting the dates because during the first weeks of September there will be the Under 17 Championships and a lot of athletes will attend both Championships..
- Speed in Kaohsiung from November 11 to 22. The track is still being built, the works are late because of a gas leak that caused some explosions.
- Master Marathon in Dijon on June 14.
- Skateboarding: there are some talks with Germany, but nothing has been confirmed.

Paniagua highlights that the dates of the Inline Hockey World Championships are not good because all the athletes, the junior especially, are still going to school during that time, therefore there will be a lack of participation. In this regard, Aracu says that Portier has done its best to change the dates but it was not possible because of some political elections, therefore the dates shall be accepted or the venue should be changed. However, the second is not really an option at this point.

Regarding the Inline Alpine World Championships, Zistler explains that they take place once every two year and maybe in 2016 they could take place in Barcelona. Paniagua says he does not know anything about it, but he is available to cooperate: the Inline Alpine Spanish team has recently reached an agreement with the Spanish Federation, therefore there will be much work in this regard.

Aracu adds that bidding procedures shall be put in place for Alpine and Downhill in 2018.

Claro is perplexed about Zistler's statement that 15 countries will participate in the next Alpine Championships, especially about the fact that some athletes will not be members of a National Federation: these athletes will therefore not have any insurance and the responsibility will be of the FIRS.

Even though he agrees with this statement, Marotta asks Claro to understand the importance of bringing new disciplines within the FIRS and to convince associations such as WIAC to join the FIRS. In light of all the projects and objectives to be reached, all Federations shall open their doors to all the disciplines.

Pascal says that he will do his best to send the calendar as soon as possible. There is not an official Championship yet but only events and his idea is to have an event in 2015 and starting from 2016 a World Championship organized with the FIRS that combines Freestyle Aggressive with Roller Speed Skating in order to get a bigger audience.

Marotta announces that the 2016 World Roller Speed Skating Championships have been awarded to Italy with two candidatures: Florence and Novara, taking place from September 24 to October 9.

Aracu says that for the very first time these two candidatures were based on the bidding procedures. The deadlines for Artistic Skating and Speed Skating have expired and the one for Inline Hockey and Ladies Rink Hockey will expire in May.

By now are the cities and not the Federations the one who submit the candidatures and that give guarantees. Novara's and Florence's candidatures were addressed directly to the FIRS, and these are two cities with all the qualities to host such an event: Florence is at the top worldwide and is the symbol of Italy, but it has already hosted one Championship. Novara is smaller, but close to Milan and gives more financial guarantees, around 400,000 EUR available from sponsors and institutions. Florence does not have the same guarantees, if it did, there would not be any doubt. The PalaMandela can sit 6,500 people, while the venue in Novara 4,000. Both cities have already made press conferences.

The video o the city of Novara is shown.

Margaret Brooks, Fernando Claro and Carmelo Paniagua all agree on Florence having a bigger impact on the public rather than Novara and Ferreira asks Aracu an opinion as FIHP President.

Aracu explains that Florence offered a percentage on the proceeds on top of the 45,000 USD fee while Novara offered 100,000 EUR regardless. **When Florence came to know about this, they also offered 100,000 EUR.** Both cities belong to the same political side, but from a financial point of view Novara is able to offer more guarantees thanks to a deliberation made by its mayor (50,000 EUR for 2014 and the same amount for 2015 and 2016) and a financial commitment undertaken by the Region of Piemonte (100/150,000 EUR) plus a series of sponsorships that reach at least 400,000 EUR. All this guarantees cannot be given by Florence. **Aracu will think about this choice until the following day.**

Marotta explains that for the 2016 World Inline Hockey Championships the deadline is set for May 15. For the 2016 World Ladies Rink Hockey Championships, Harro says there are two candidatures: Italy and Argentina (Mendoza).

The 2016 World Roller Speed Skating Championships has received three candidatures: Netherlands, Colombia, China and Italy.

Aracu highlights that for this last Championships nobody has submitted the candidature as required by the bidding procedure, except for China. The other have therefore not followed the procedure. However, this would mean that the Speed Championships would take place for two consecutive years in Asia. A memorandum of understanding has been signed by FIRS and Nanjing and this means that the first World Championship after their Youth Olympics experience would be a FIRS one and **also refusing the candidature of a city that hosted Olympic events would not be possible.** It is a decision more political rather than technical, the FIRS has been promised the track in the Olympic park with hotels that can lodge up to 10,000 people. It could maybe be difficult for all our Federations, but how is the FIRS supposed to say no? They already made the down payment and the municipality of Nanjing will attend the FIRS Congress.

CERS President Fernando Claro approves the proposal made by Nanjing but has some perplexities about the European countries not organizing the events due to financial issues and therefore also about the lack of participation by those same countries in an event that would take place for the third consecutive time outside of Europe. Paniagua agrees with Claro but also stresses that if Nanjing was the

only one submitting a correct candidature by following all the procedures, then it deserves being awarded the organization of the World Championships.

Aracu agrees with every opinion and stresses that by using the same Organizing Committee of the Youth Olympics Nanjing will definitely stage a high level event and another thing to bear in mind is that the city of Nanjing is organizing a seminar for coaches, the 2018 World Inline Hockey Championships and the 2019 World Roller Games.

Marotta answers to Roldán's perplexities on who is going to actually be responsible of the organization of the event by saying that surely Nanjing will rely on the help and competence of the FIRS and they have such financial resources that they can guarantee a high-level product. Furthermore, this event will send a positive political message to the IOC: Nanjing has deemed Roller Sports the best sport of its 2014 SportsLab.

Strucksberg then asks some more info on the Olympic Project and Marotta explains that the IOC asked the FIRS to propose a sport in case they were chosen for Tokyo 2020; initially only Speed Skating was proposed but then, seeing the IOC interest in the other disciplines, the FIRS proposed also Skateboarding and Aggressive, for a total of 3 disciplines, leaving to the IOC and the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee the choice. This will all be discussed in the meeting of May 11.

The discussion then moves on the need of favouring the rotation of the Continents when selecting a venue, the request by the Netherlands that had no financial guarantees to offer and the importance of the bidding procedures that allow having securities and give Federation time to organize their participation.

The awarding of the 2016 World Roller Speed Skating Championships to the city of Nanjing is put to vote.

Approved unanimously.

14. Statutes

President Aracu explains that the proposal of amendment made by the Spanish Federation includes there are both political and technical items that need discussion. For example, some denominations do not work: Roller Freestyle is better than the one proposed, the Freestyle Technical Committee cannot be only Freestyle as we know it, Alpine and Downhill could be merged in a single committee because they work together, therefore also in this case a new denomination shall be found. They can use a temporary name now, but in a year a solution must be found.

It is also important establishing the denomination of the Continental Confederations and whether the technical Chairmen shall be voted during Congress **or proposing once again the nomination of the Chairmen by the President**. Pros and cons shall be analyzed so that the EB can go to Congress with a common proposal resolved by everyone.

Marotta explains how the document of amendment of the FIRS Statutes has been drafted: on the left the new version, on the right the old one.

Art. 2 the clause g) is added, a correct organizational chart of the International events.

A small debate begins with Ferreira suggesting that Continental Games should be placed right after the Olympic Games and before the World Games and with Claro highlighting that the proposal should be readjusted. When it is said that the FIRS approves the Continental Championships this means that these

have already been approved by the Confederations. It could be changed with the FIRS defining an intercontinental calendar for all the disciplines and so the approval part could be taken out. Aracu agrees with this suggestion that protects the Continents and gives the responsibility to the FIRS to check that the continental championships do not interfere with the world championships. Paniagua agrees with Claro and explains that he made this proposal in order to finally have an international calendar that allows the events to run smoothly, that can be shared by everyone and that can be spread as Roller Sports calendar. At the end of discussion, proposes to change the word “authorize” with “agree upon”.

Unanimously approved.

Art. 7 FIRS Structure clause c) is added. The clause states that the Technical Committee with voting rights in the Executive Board are:

- FIRS Artistic Technical Committee
- FIRS Freestyle and Inline Aggressive Technical Committee
- FIRS Inline Hockey Technical Committee
- FIRS Rink Hockey Technical Committee
- FIRS Alpine and Downhill Technical Committee
- FIRS Roller Derby Technical Committee
- FIRS Skateboarding Technical Committee
- FIRS Speed Technical Committee

All of the above have voting rights.

Ferreira believes that this item needs discussion because if the Technical Committee Chairmen are nominated they should not vote seeing that they did not get their mandate from a democratic election. The President shall be given the means to properly manage the Federation, therefore also the possibility to change the Chairmen if they do not work well, meaning they will be technical counsellors; if they were elected it would mean go backwards.

Marotta reminds everyone that what Ferreira proposed corresponds exactly to what was proposed two years prior as amendment of the FIRS Statutes and asks everybody for their opinion:

- Paniagua agrees with what Ferreira proposed; he himself has been democratically elected as National Federation President and then chooses who to put as manager of all the different disciplines. The same should be valid also for the FIRS.
- Aracu reminds everyone that his old proposal allowed the President to nominate the different Technical Committee Chairmen through a list to be submitted before the election.
- Ferreira points out that if the Chairmen are elected together with the President, the President will not be able to terminate their mandate because they were democratically elected with him.
- Aracu states that democracy has its cost, if no power is conferred to other entities through voting rights, the FIRS Assembly loses power and the voting of the Continents ends up having too much of it. In a city, the mayor is elected by the people and it is him the one who nominates its committee. If a President gets elected together with a list of collaborators and the Assembly approves it there is indeed presidentialism but also transparency before the Assembly. The best

thing is the list presented by the President together with its candidature, because once he has nominated someone he would think twice before removing it, because doing so would make him lose credibility.

This procedure could then be applied also to all the candidates for President of a Continental Confederation.

- Claro says that when voting to elect the President, one should be aware of the team that works with him. The Assembly shall know the list beforehand therefore every information should be included in the list.
- Ferreira points out that the Vice Presidents, that have been democratically elected, would lose power with a President and 9 Chairmen belonging to his list, there will be no balance anymore and the EB would become more technical rather than political. He would rather have the President with the ability to nominate who is in his team, but that cannot be changed in the following 4 years of mandate.

Marotta sums it up: The topic of the discussion is whether the people eventually indicated by the President in its list proposed in the congress have right to vote in the EB and whether the President should have the right to remove them.

- Brooks believes it should be the disciplines should propose their own Chairman and she does not understand how the FIRS President can assess which is the right person for the job.
- Aracu understands that whoever comes from a past tradition believes that the Chairmen should be elected by their own disciplines, but in this case those Chairmen should stay outside the EB and only give technical advice, with no decisional power whatsoever. The election of the President that has submitted a list of Chairmen gives power but also responsibilities to the President: by doing this, the people that compose the team could represent the FIRS, otherwise they would not. It could maybe be better the direct election of every single Chairmen, the President could use his political weight to influence the voting, while with a list he would have to be honest from the start. The EB could propose last time's amendment and nullifying the others and state who is being presented from the EB.
- Strucksberg is perplexed about giving voting rights to the Chairmen that represent very few Federations compared to those, like him, who represents a lot of them. He would like to postpone this decision, after having amended the bylaws.
- Aracu reminds Strucksberg that the bylaws result from the statutes and not the other way around. The FIRS shall end the Congress with Skateboarding officially recognized, therefore there should be a proposal either from Spain or from the EB to be brought to Congress. Also Roller Derby, although with no President, shall be established within the FIRS, because they could independently form a Federation seeing their high number of participants. Aracu therefore proposes that both Italy and Spain withdraw their proposal and that the EB makes their own.
- Portier believes that the Statutes of other multi-sport Federations should be analyzed, but Aracu replies that in the FINA Statutes the Technical Committee are left out of the EB that is far more restricted in terms of numbers of members; giving power to the Chairmen of the disciplines is a sign of modernization in Aracu's opinion. We must establish a team around the Chairmen that shall have responsibilities that are also managerial.

- Strucksberg believes clause c of Art. 7 should not be amended, but Marotta believes that power should be given also to the others disciplines after the FIRS aegis in order to demonstrate to the whole World that the FIRS is the sole governing body to all Roller Sports. If then a change needs to be done once again, it can be done, but not today.
- Marotta says that including new disciplines such as Inline Slalom or Downhill means telling to the National Federations that they should start taking care of them nationally and this could make the number of Federations attending a Championship increase. The FIRS shall demonstrate to the IOC that the new disciplines have been included in the International Federation with the same worth of the old ones.

The amendment will be that the President will nominate the Chairmen that will be presented in a list that will be submitted together with his candidature presented to the Secretary General and that should be supported by at least 10 National Federations.

The EB resolves to bring this proposal by the EB to Congress.

Art. 7 clause C: All the disciplines are indicated and the Inline Aggressive Committee and the Freestyle Committee will be separated entities, with a total of 9 Technical Committees.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 7 clause f is added – Protocol Commission

Voting:

Approved unanimously

Art. 8 clauses e), f) and g) are added – meaning the written report of the Auditor, the Secretary General and the FIRS accounts report.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 8 clause 8 letter B: Each Federation has one vote for having paid the FIRS plus one vote for each discipline of the Championship that has been attended in the last two years.

This article has never been amended.

Strucksberg requests clarifications about the increase of disciplines and therefore of World Championships and Aracu says that the FIRS will decide and recognize which World Championships will give a vote to the Federations, based on the number of Federations attending, correct regulations, etc.

Art. 11: The name of FIRS shall be put before every Confederation.

CERS President asks to withdraw this proposal, while Paniagua believes this to be a modernization that would also avoid any confusion at an international level.

Also Ferreira has some doubts about this proposal. Despite the fact he believes the use of the FIRS brand in the Continental Federation denomination would give more power to it also politically, Aracu proposes to withdraw the proposal.

The proposal is officially withdrawn, therefore Article 11 clause 3 stays at it was.

Art. 11 clause 4: Protocol Manager and Auditor are added.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art 11 clause 7: participation of at least 5 countries in a World Championship.

The only issue would be the participation of the African countries, but on the other hand Congresses should have representatives of countries that actually carry out sporting activities.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 11 clause 9: “each 4 years” added.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 11 clause 10: Clarification on the EB meetings

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 13: Composition of the Executive Commission with the addition of the Protocol Manager and the Medical Commission Manager.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 18: The article is amended following the amendment of what resolved before.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 21: Denomination of the Technical Committees with two different committees for Freestyle and Inline Aggressive.

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 21.3: “nominated” instead of “elected”

Voting:

Approved unanimously.

Art. 24: withdrawn.

Second day

President Aracu welcomes the new Vice President of the CARS, Mr. Guoyong Liu that he has personally met in China and introduces him to the EB as a very practical man that effectively exercises his mandate.

In China he is also the Director of the Sports Commission for All, a department of the Chinese Ministry of Sports.

Guoyong Liu apologizes for having arrived on the second day of meeting due to the Chinese New Year's. Since his election in 2014 so much has been done for Roller Sports in Asia and his commitment, also as Vice President of the Chinese National Olympic Committee, is to work hard for the development of Roller Sports in Asia.

Aracu explains the agenda of the day (meeting of the EB until 1 PM, with a hearing of the President of the Mexican Federation to try to solve some issues with the AHPM which unfortunately could not attend the meeting, then verification of the Federations' credentials during the afternoon in the Ritz Hotel and the chance to meet all the Presidents of the National Federations, and during the evening a dinner with all the authorities). He then gives the floor to the representatives of the JEC company that designed the new FIRS logo and the new FIRS website which includes an integrated Intranet system and SEMS.

15. Media Communication and Marketing

Lorenzo Giannakoulas explains the project of the new logo (Attachment 1).

Aracu thanks the JEC company for its work and reminds that the new logo will be presented the following day during Congress. The color green has been chosen because Roller Sports are very sustainable, the skates do not pollute and a survey among the youngsters have demonstrated that this logo is liked and captivating.

Paniagua congratulates the President for the modernization that has been made for the new and hip logo and the revamp of the webpage. These are changes that the FIRS really needed.

Roldán has some doubts about the drawing used for the wheel of the logo, but everybody agrees that is the only common element for all the Roller disciplines.

Pascal does not believe the Aggressive pictorial represent the community of this discipline at its best, it would need a better representation of someone who jumps, but he appreciates the logo.

Brooks asks why the color green has been chosen and Ferreira says that he would have kept the colour red and blue that identify our Federation worldwide.

Cars President believes that the decision of changing the logo was right, this logo is far simpler and better in terms of marketing potential, and it will surely be appreciated by the younger generations.

Federico Dioniso introduces the Intranet and sporting management system (Attachment 2)

Ferreira, Quintanilla, Claro and Paniagua congratulate Aracu for the excellent idea and the creation of this tool that will be vital to the development of the FIRS and that will allow the FIRS to check the quality of the selling of the tickets of a World Championship, the passes issued directly in one's own country, the number of rooms booked in a hotel, etc. This platform will solve a lot of current management issues.

Aracu thanks everybody and stresses that the FIRS is not a company, but the managing of some essential aspects such as those aforementioned shall be carried out just like a company does, because this is what has been requested by the IOC. In the future the Chairmen will be employed full-time, also

some bonuses shall be established for them, as well as objectives to be reached. The International Federation shall grow financially, so that all the projects can be successfully implemented.

Claro congratulates again the FIRS for the changes and says that he changed the logo of the Portuguese Federation after 70 years, changes are not always welcomed positively but they need to be done, an institution must move forward disregarding the opinion of those who want to remain mired in the past.

16. Bylaws

Marotta reminds everybody that the new bylaws are currently being drafted and they will have to be in compliance with the new Statutes that will be proposed the following day during Congress. The most important amendment of the Statutes is as follows: the Technical Committee Chairmen will be chosen by the candidate for Presidency who, in occasion of the submission of his candidature, shall present also a list of the Chairmen he wants to be part of his team so that whoever will vote for him will also know which Technical Committee Chairmen will be if he gets elected. This amendment, approved to strengthen the role of the President and allow a real cooperation between him and the Chairmen, will be submitted the following day to be approved by the Congress.

17. Disciplinary Rules

Marotta stresses that the document that the members received in the previous days was only a work in progress, a draft in Spanish made by Ignacio Ganzalez for the CERS and adapted to meet the need of the FIRS. There was no time to translate it into English, but it will be done in the following days so that everybody will be able to give a feedback about it. Marotta additionally reminds everyone that this document shall not be addressed to one single discipline, it shall address all of them, it should then be general and elements common to all the disciplines shall be included.

Aracu thanks the CERS for its contribution.

18. African Confederation

Marotta sums up what has happened in regards to the African Confederation. President Aracu had put the ACRS in temporary receivership and nominated him as Commissioner because of an irregular and not at all transparent convocation of an elective Congress that was not sent to all the African National Federations that could have led to irregular elections. Marotta had tried to understand which were the countries that actually carried out sporting activity in the disciplines of the FIRS and which ones requested affiliation only to obtain VISAs to get outside of the African countries. A questionnaire had been sent to all the African National Federations attached to the folders of all the EB members together with a summary report.

Furthermore, all the relevant African Olympic Committees have been contacted in order to have a confirmation that the Federations carry out sporting activity. Unfortunately in the past the FIRS had sent Roller Speed Skating and Hockey equipment in Africa, but everything disappeared. Until the situation is not clear about who are the true managers of the Federations the situation will not improve. It is very surprising that countries such as Mozambique and Egypt who are very active did not submit the questionnaire.

Aracu also adds how the previous year was one of the toughest for the FIRS. Of course Africa could do better, but a great work has been carried out that has never been done before. The ambassadors project will go on also thanks to the contacts in Togo whose Government should house the National Federation with a Secretary General paid by the FIRS and organize some seminars for coaches. This investment will surely bear fruits, but at the moment Africa still needs to be supervised. Aracu ends this topic by saying that he would like to nominate a local Vice Commissioner that can operate on the continent but under the control of the FIRS, but it something that still needs to be figured out.

The proposal by the President of extending Africa's temporary receivership is put to vote.

Approved unanimously.

19. AHPM

Aracu welcomes the President of the Mexican Federation Mr. Nicolas Santibañez that followed Roberto Ordoñez after his death and introduces also Secretary General Edgardo Gonzales.

The FIRS has received a detailed report on the issue of the presence and development of Rink Hockey in Mexico and would like to discuss this topic with the President of the Federation.

Marotta stresses how in many countries there are inter-personal conflicts that the Federations would like the FIRS to solve, but this is not fair seeing that each country must democratically elect his managers that the FIRS then officially recognizes. Recognizing more than one Federations in a country is not always the best option. The best solution would be a single National Federation controlling all the disciplines. In order to do so, all different organizations that are in contrast should be put together but this is not always possible. As principle, the FIRS tends to prioritize to the affiliated National Federations that regularly carry out sporting activities, even though sometimes they do not manage some roller disciplines. This is the case of the Mexican Federation, contrasted by the AHPM that has been requesting for the past 3 years to be recognized as independent National Federation managing Rink Hockey. The FIRS has already an affiliated Federation in Mexico that successfully carry out Roller Speed Skating, Roller Artistic Skating and claims to manage also Rink Hockey. The FIRS would tend to give credibility to the Mexican Federation, but the claims by the AHPM have been received by the FIRS together with claims by other National Federations that are active in Rink Hockey asking to recognize AHPM as separated Federation. For this reason, both the Mexican Federation and AHPM have been convened in this meeting to discuss this issue and find an agreement that would bring them under the same institution. Marotta's opinion is that AHPM does not want to be part of the Mexican Federation because of some interpersonal contrast between AHPM President and President Santibañez, therefore he gives the floor to the latter to talk about his point of view.

President Santibañez states that he has been elected as President of the Mexican Federation on April 26, 2014 by all the members of the National Federation. He thanks the FIRS for the invitation and the chance to clarify this issue. The whole Governing Council of the Mexican Federation wants to develop all the roller disciplines, but the issue with Rink Hockey has been happening for many years and was already addressed by the previous administration. There was an attempt to solve the situation by contacting AHPM to find an agreement and include them under their aegis but unfortunately Francisco does not want to accept the Statutes of the Mexican Federation, never showed up during the meetings and does not want to talk. The Mexican Federation wishes to develop all the roller disciplines, Rink

Hockey included. Santibañez believes that Francisco wants to irregularly continue managing Rink Hockey by not becoming a member of the Mexican Federation which is the sole Federation recognized by the Ministry of Sports, the Mexican National Olympic Committee and by the FIRS. Also other groups that are managing Rink Hockey in Mexico apart from AHPM have been contacted by the Mexican Federation, even one which is as big as AHPM, in order to find an agreement to develop together this discipline. Santibañez explains that their presence in this meeting is proof of the fact that they really want to welcome AHPM under their umbrella.

Although he agrees on protecting the interests of the Federations affiliated to the FIRS, Strucksberg why his letter included at page 474 of the folder has never been answered and why neither the AHPM nor the official team of the Mexican Federation attended the B World Championships.

Santibañez states that he never received that letter and that he always opened to AHPM telling them that their athletes could have participated in the World Championships by first attending the National Championships to select the athletes. He never received any reply from them. In Mexico in order to take part in the competitions, the athletes shall be members of the National Federation.

Claro congratulates the FIRS for having convened this meeting and asks why the Mexican Federation did not attend the U20 championships even though it was held after Santibañez's election. He also says that he always supported AHPM in this issue but only because he always received partial information; now the situation is different and therefore asks Santibañez if he really wants to develop Rink Hockey in Mexico and participate in the World Championships. Personal problems shall be solved at national level. Santibañez says that its intentions were that the 4 disciplines present in Mexico, plus others if they happen to be carried out, were developed and from his part there is the will to welcome the AHPM in the Mexican Federation and allow them to attend the World Championships.

Ferreira asks Santibañez about his opinion about the past management of Ordoñez with regards to the relationship with AHMP, and Santibañez says that Ordoñez always had great difficulties in his relations with the AHPM. But Santibañez's opinion is completely different.

Santibañez also submits a report that sums up all that has happened in the past and that states the will to solve the problems left by the past administration and to welcome the AHPM in the Mexican Federation.

President Aracu thanks Santibañez and his Secretary General and they can now both leave the room.

Aracu highlights that the AHPM was invited in the Executive Board meeting but did not come and that Rink Hockey in Mexico is not so developed. A National Federation willing to open its door to an athletes' association cannot be told they're not doing their job. Given this, the FIRS cannot recognize a new National Federation.

Following what said by Santibañez, also Claro and Strusckberg say that the FIRS should give to the Mexican Federation the chance to develop Rink Hockey and attend the World Championships.

Ferreira says that Santibañez worked with the Mexican National Olympic Committee and the Ministry of Sports, has managed Roller Sports during the Pan-American Games in Caribe in November and had clearly expressed his will to welcome Rink Hockey under his aegis. The truth is that before Ordoñez did not want Rink Hockey in tis Federation therefore the new President of the Federation should be given a new chance. If there will be no positive outcome, then a different decision can be made.

Marotta ends the discussion on this topic by saying that the EB decides that the AHPM shall join the Mexican Federation, therefore the FIRS Secretariat will have to notify the AHPM about this decision.

20. Broadcasting and TV rights

Aracu explains that the Toulouse, Rosario and Reus World Championships had a high quality, but the next events will have to manage to get an even higher one. In each discipline there are improvements to be made, the Jimmy shall be used everywhere, shootings with drones, all technological means that make the sport more appealing and entertaining. When speaking of TV productions, programmes shall be made not only with the Technical Committees but also with experts in communication. If for example the Rink Hockey competitions are being played by teams such as Spain, Portugal, Italy or Argentina, the TV rights are paid, but the matches shall be broadcasted at a time that works, for example at 8 PM, therefore all schedules shall be established keeping this in mind. A high quality TV product shall be made where the FIRS can invest together with the Organizing Committees. Also important is getting satellites. A gift that could be made to Africa is offering a satellite to broadcast our sport in the African TV.

The FIRS does not have many sponsors, but this is linked to the image and the TV quality. If the FIRS offers a better product, brands would want to be associated with the FIRS.

Aracu believes that starting this year there will be a good TV product in every discipline.

21. FIRS Certification (sport equipment and facilities)

Based on the proposal included in the folder, Aracu explains that, as it happens in many other International Federations, one cannot attend World Championships with no homologated equipment. The FIRS homologates, certifies and this will bring revenues. For example, in order to homologate wheels, a company shall make a request to International Federation and pay a fee: there could be a yearly income of around 200,000 USD that could be invested in TV, brand, communication, etc. The Chairmen were asked which products could be homologated.

Kalon Dobbin, athletes' representative, has some doubts about this seeing that many athletes are sponsored by smaller companies that supply them with free equipment and could therefore find themselves in difficulties.

Marius Vizer arrives

President Aracu welcomes SportAccord President Marius Vizer and introduces him to the whole EB, reminding the support that the FIRS gave him during his run for Presidency. The FIRS has always supported him in all the innovations and changes that he wants to bring about.

Vizer defines himself as a person that has been raised in sports. All athletes have the same worth, not everyone has been born Olympic, but they can all get there and the important thing is considering everybody at the same level. The engine is composed by the International Federations and SportAccords manages them all not making any difference between the Olympic and non-Olympic ones. From the creation of this association that has always been managed by the IOC, Vizer considers himself the first free President and at the service of all the sporting disciplines, he would have liked to organize

the greatest event joining Olympic and non-Olympic sports but unfortunately he has been attacked for it, so the events are now four: Urban, Beach, Combat and Mind Games. Together the future of the Sport can be changed and be very successful. Sports are like a pyramid nowadays: glory and money at the top, suffering at the base. This happens also in the Olympic Games: the athletes are the greatest, but underneath there is the suffering. The base of the pyramid, which is the base of all sports, must be supported. Vizer ends his speech asking to support Aracu and considers an honour the chance of attending both the EB and the Congress on the following day.

Strucksberg thanks Vizer for having sent a letter where SportAccord recognizes the FIRS as sole governing body for the Skateboarding, and Vizer replies that he will do his best to support the FIRS so that it will reach the objectives set because Roller Sports are the discipline of the future, destined to the young people and that will soon be Olympic.

Portieri has a great interest in the Urban Sports that could make the FIRS reach the audience it needs, seeing that Inline Hockey comes from Street Hockey, an urban sport.

Vizer says that Inline Hockey has a great future ahead because it is followed by many young people. On Euronews there is a show called Sports United that promotes sports such as these.

Aracu adds that SportAccord has signed a contract with Euronews to promote spectacular sports and some space will be destined also to the disciplines under the FIRS.

Pascal asks for some updates on the Urban Games and Vizer replies that he is speaking about this with New York, Russia and Singapore. It is not an easy project to conduct, it has been sabotaged by some people, the costs of the athletes' participation were covered in order to give money to National and International Federations, a budget of 100,000,000 seemed too high and also finding an hosting city that meets the expectations of our community has created some difficulties.

Aracu adds that for the WRG the logo of SportAccord has been included in the corporate image of the event, and this makes the whole FIRS very proud.

Vizer leaves the room.

The Nanjing's Youth Olympic Games brochure is given to the members.

Marotta thanks the Chinese Federation, especially Secretary General Huang Qiang for his cooperation. All the efforts have been truly appreciated and everything has been successful. The Chinese Federation can consider itself proud of this huge achievement.

22. Antidoping

Patricia Wallace starts her report by dividing it in 2014 and 2015.

In 2014 no anti-doping tests were performed in Inline Hockey because the contract with the French Agency was not signed, it was a standard contract and who had to sign it was not really clear.

For Artistic Skating 12 tests were performed with a screening on 12 Nations, so it was a good result. For the Speed, 30 tests were performed, less than usual, but they all brought great results, there were some problems in Argentina with an unknown anti-doping agency, and therefore only 4 tests were

performed in Bogotá and this is not an ideal number. Tests were carried out with great difficulty because they were performed by doctors with no experience in anti-doping and with no right equipment.

For 2015, the new WADA Code asks for mandatory tests that will increase the costs for the organizing National Federations and for the FIRS. Now there are 4 types of different tests.

For Speed Skating, for competitions of more than 1,000 mt, 30% EPO and 10% of growth hormones shall be performed. In Hockey 5% EPO and 10% hormones. These percentages have been estimated on the compulsory and non-compulsory programmes, therefore one must comply with these percentages. The estimated cost is around 200 USD for urine tests, 300 USD for EPO, 300 for growth hormone and the cost of a Doping Control Officer: for Belgium is 320 EUR for 90 minutes plus accommodation and travel, therefore 1,000 USD per test.

For the OCT, there were some negotiations with SportAccord, it is difficult to comply with the percentages, one must perform at least 3 OCT per athlete. Urine tests are useless, it is only a waste of money. The FIRS has been requested a more effective programme. In the year 2000 there was a new EPO test and the Passport software had been developed, and these allowed to understand if supplements or doping substances were being used. Wallace recommends that the software for the biological passport is implemented for Speed Skating athletes, and at the moment there are the data to do this because they are kept in the routine tests, but an Athlete Passport Management Unit shall be implemented, this has been done by many labs. Also there is the need for an extra panel. SportAccord can do all of this for the FIRS.

There has been a positive OCT test of an Artistic Skating athlete, the athlete has been sanctioned for 2 years, this has led to an appeal and in the end of March a decision will be made.

There is another issue presented by the 4th member of the Medical Commission, an American would like to register the injuries and falls in order to prevent them from happening during the World Championships, especially those of Roller Speed Skating. A form has been spread to many National Federations. This doctor says that there could be some iPads with an app (100 USD) that register the falls during competitions and warm ups, this data will then go to a database. Wallace suggests to take this idea into consideration.

Regarding the budget for the organizers of the World Championships, for Roller Speed Skating it was 20,000 EUR for 40 tests; the costs are really high and a way should be found in order to not burden too much the National Federations.

As International Federation, the FIRS is obliged to have a test software, these athletes shall add their whereabouts in a database stating where they are going to be from 5AM to 11PM, where they will sleep and where are they going to warm up. The cost of these tests varies from Federation to Federation: for example in Portugal are for free, in Taiwan they are more expensive because the officials come from outside, in Australia if you buy 6 you get 6 for free.

Claro believes the cost of the missed OCT tests shall be charged to the National Federations because the FIRS is responsible of the anti-doping procedures only during international events, but Wallace states that the FIRS really has the responsibility of the OCT tests also, but the National Federations must give all their support.

Strucksberg believes that the National Federations that want to organize World Championships should be aware the expenses to be made and that these are written in the contract.

Marotta reminds that the FIRS had spent 32,000 USD for anti-doping, an amount bigger than the one spent in the past but still less than what expected. Urine tests shall not be performed anymore because ineffective and switch to blood tests, but this is very expensive to do.

The FIRS will pay for the OCT tests, therefore everyone shall be serious and punctual when submitting their whereabouts, a thing that has been often overlooked. This is very important because the FIRS risks spending a lot of money with no results. Sanctions of 1,000 USD have been applied and it is clear that the FIRs will have to charge the defaulting Federations. It is essential that everyone is responsible because being in compliance with the WADA Code is vital in order to be accepted by the IOC.

The Anti-Doping Policy shall be separated from the Statutes because if the WADA Code changes, then also the FIRS Anti-Doping Policy has to change accordingly.

Marotta adds that the number of controls will be considerably increased and that the FIRS will have a bigger budget. Said controls shall address not only the “traditional” disciplines of the FIRS but also the new disciplines such as, Downhill, Aggressive, etc.

The control on the anti-doping procedures is exclusive responsibility of the FIRS and no Technical Committee should interfere with it as it has happened during the last World inline Hockey Championships where for a misunderstanding CIRILH member Valerie Leftwich allowed only 6 tests to be performed while there was the availability for 14 more. Such things should not happen again.

23. FIRS Financial report 2014 and FIRS budget 2015

Marotta invites everyone to consult the 2014 financial report in the folder. (Attachment 3)

Many Federations do not pay the FIRS fees therefore more checks should be made in order to solve this situation and if a Federation does not pay within 6 months it should be terminated.

Also attention is given to the contribution that IOC gave for the Youth Olympics, on the fees for organizing the World Championships and on the deposit amount for the WRG.

Revenues from the sponsors are not really high but can increase with the homologation of the products. Incomes and expenditures are detailed in a table and Marotta reminds that all incomes and expenditures of the FIRS Technical Committees have all been centralized in a FIRS bank account.

There is the need of more liquidity in order to implement all the projects that have been explained during the meeting. More investments will be made towards the TV broadcasting so it is very important to promote the brand.

The budget for 2015 respects what has been estimated in 2014, one of the most important incomes is the organization fee for the WRG.

Among the expenditures, it is important considering what goes towards the FIRS staff and the increase of the expenditures for the Web TV.

24. New affiliations

Marotta informs that the Congress will be called to ratify the affiliation of the following countries:

- Latvia (Speed)
- Mauritius
- Sudan
- Macedonia

The Congress will also have to ratify those Countries that were granted provisional affiliation last year:

- Cyprus
- Latvia (Skateboarding)
- Liberia
- Malaysia
- Nepal
- New Guinea
- Northern Ireland
- Senegal
- Tanzania
- Tunisia

The objective of the FIRS is to establish a sole National Federation for all the roller disciplines, therefore everybody should work to make this possible.

25. Miscellaneous

- **Nanjing**

Marotta informs the floor that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by the FIRS and the city of Nanjing that will do a presentation the next day during Congress.

- **Skate Victoria**

Wallace talks about an issue in Australia which is similar to what was going on in Mexico. Skate Victoria does not want to be affiliated to Skate Australia, seeing that they do not want to pay the affiliation fee to the official Federation and therefore takes part in the competitions separately. The official Federation of the FIRS requires all athletes to be regularly registered in order for them to attend an official competition, but it is very difficult prevent them from attending the events organized by Skate Victoria that represent for them an additional chance to compete.

Harro proposes to make Skate Victoria pay a lower fee, but Wallace believes that this would create an unfair precedent and wouldn't be the best solution.

Marotta says that this constitutes an internal issue that should be solved by the National Federation. Whoever wants to attend an international event shall be affiliated by the National Federation because the FIRS will recognize only those kind of athletes.

- **Requests by Margaret Brooks**

Brooks withdraws her requests because everything was already discussed during the EB meeting.

Claro wants to receive some clarifications on some issues raised by Margaret and Brooks confirms that Inline Artistic will continue to be carried out in the World Championships.

President Aracu says that Inline Artistic Competitions are currently at a very low level therefore the Technical Committee should contact those organizations that carry out this discipline successfully in order to make them join the FIRS. In this regard, President Aracu has already gotten in Touch with the President of an important Inline Artistic organization and he will have a meeting with him really soon.

- **Proposal by Quintanilla**

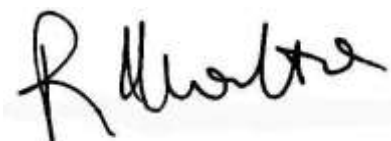
Everybody agrees that the proposal made by Armando Quintanilla (Attachment 4) is great but it requires a true organization and funding to implement it. Aracu commits to analyze it together with Masserini hoping that in the future to develop the project step by step.

Brooks asks if at this point the President wants to choose between Novara or Florence as hosting venue for the 2016 Roller Artistic Skating Championships, but Aracu says he still needs some time and will give his final decision the following day.

A discussion arises on the request by the Swiss Federation of Hockey for a reimbursement for the expenses due to the change of venues of the FIRS Inline Hockey Championships in Rosario, but this will set an unfair precedent therefore the FIRS will apologize to them with a letter but the reimbursement will be denied.

Aracu thanks all the members for the work carried out and is looking forward to seeing everybody at the 2015 Ordinary Congress on the following day.

The Executive Board meeting ends around 2,30 PM.



Roberto Marotta
Secretary General



Sabatino Aracu
President

