



International Rafting Federation

MAIN MINUTES - CONGRESS 2011

6 Oct 2011

1. Opening: *Sue opened the meeting and apologised for the meeting having to be postponed from the previous night explaining that her flight delays caused her to arrive 24hrs later than expected.*
2. Apologies: *Albania (asked Sue to proxy for them), Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Montenegro, Portugal, Spain, Turkey.*

Roll Call:

Albania – proxy – Sue Liell-Cock

Argentina – Matias Lopez

Australia – Graeme Maifredi (M Blackwell, S Nomchong, J Dick, E Morton)

Austria – X

Belgium – Marlies van der Berge (J Geers)

Bosnia & Herzegovina – Aleksandar Pastir (Goran Lolic)

Brasil – X

Bulgaria – Emilia Begunova

Canada – Eric Boudreau

Chile – Joe Willie Jones

China - X

Colombia – Cesar Diaz

Costa Rica – Rafa Gallo

Croatia – Mario Tomasovic

Czech – Ondrej Panenka (Martin Prochazka)

Denmark – Jakob Faerch

Finland – Risto Kantola

Georgia – X

Germany – Peter Micheler (Peter Kreps)

Great Britain – Gareth Wilson (Pas Blackwell)

Hungary – Vaskuti Mate

Indonesia - Amalia Yunita

Iran - X

Italy - X

Japan – Shige Asano

Kazakhstan – X

Korea – X

Latvia – X

Mexico – Gervasio Rodriguez Tellez

Montenegro – X

Nepal – X

Netherlands – Pieter Bekkers (Dirk Ladiges)

New Zealand – Raewyn Larcombe

Norway – X

Portugal – X

Russia – Oleg Grigoriev

Serbia - Boris Purjakov (M Furtula, Z Rajkovic)
Slovakia – Jozef Kytka
Slovenia – Milan Lovrencic
South Africa – Sue Liell-Cock
Spain – X
Switzerland – X
Turkey - X
Ukraine – X
USA – X
Venezuela – Karla Gudino

Delegates of applying members: France – Mathieu Veysiere

Establish Quorum: 29 members out of 46 voting members. Quorum is established

3. New Memberships for acceptance: *Albania and Iran – both accepted unanimously*
4. Report by the President: *Rafa briefly ran through some of the tasks he has been doing in the past two years, namely the Sport Accord Convention in Dubai in 2010 and looking at working with the ICF. He said the IRF needs change. He is hoping to see new blood ready to take over the Presidency by 2013. He also feels the IRF BOD needs more meetings outside of the WRC.*
5. Report by the Secretary (attached): *Sue summarised her report by saying that most of the work of driving the IRF forward is being left to a few people – this needs to change. She praised Pieter Bekkers for helping rescue the 2010 WRC and Rafa for managing to hold the 2011 WRC despite the lack of funds. She praised Mark Joffe for his work in various aspects of the IRF from the banking to accounts to events to sponsors, media, websites and facebook. She thanked Raewyn Larcombe (GT&E administrator) and Gaspar Goncz for managing the GT&E section so well. She stressed that new blood and new energy is needed and that this year anyone wanting to see the IRF doing things must be prepared to stand up and help do it themselves.*
6. Financial report for approval (attached): *This was approved*
7. Budget and Financial outlook for 2011 (attached): *Lack of funds was spoken about. Budget was approved*
8. Reports from Head of Committees –
 1. S&C Committee – Ondrej Panenka (attached) *Ondrej briefly ran through the report.*
 2. Guide Training & Education – Gaspar Goncz (attached). *Raewyn ran through the report on Gaspar's behalf*
 3. International Relations – Jakob Faerch; (attached) *Jakob briefly ran through the report.*
 4. Media & Marketing – (included in Secretary's Report)
 5. Recreational Rafting & Conservation – Shige Asano (attached). *Shige briefly ran through the report*
 6. Judges Committee – Eric Boudreau *explained how the committee had set up a grading system for Chief Judges based on experience and other key abilities needed when judging. He'd also created a Head Judge Workshop which aims to get all Judges around the world judging in the same way.*
 7. Youth and Masters Committee – Oleg Grigoriev *reported that there had been a Youth event in 2010, one in 2011 and one in 2012 as well as 1st Masters event in 2012. Age was stretched to 16 – 21 yrs to help build numbers. He is suggesting that Youth events that are already running in countries (like Czech and Russia) should be used as international events to encourage other youth teams to compete.*
9. Election of office bearers - Board of Directors: *this was postponed until the later meeting, see below.*

10. Committees – all interested in being on the below committees please approach the Heads of those committees:
The committees are:
1. International Relations Committee
 2. Recreational Rafting & Conservation Committee
 3. Media & Marketing Committee
- (Sport & Competition committees will be decided during the S&C section of the Congress. GT&E Committee is made up of IRF Instructors and Assessors.)
11. Discussions and resolutions on the proposals submitted by National Federations and BOD (*details below*):
1. IRF and ATTA - join the ATTA Association Partner program
The vote was unanimous for us to do this
 2. Medals – IRF or organisers to pay for them
Option 2) was given a unanimous vote
 3. Fees and funding – increases and changes for 2012 onwards
All proposals were accepted unanimously
12. Closing of Part 1 of the Congress. Part 2 will be the BOD election and the Sport & Competition meeting.

PART 2 of the Main Congress section:

Roll Call:

Albania – proxy – Sue Liell-Cock
Australia – Graeme Maifredi
Austria – Christian Hollinger
Belgium – Bert vand der Berge (G Bax)
Bosnia & Herzegovina – Aleksandar Pastir
Bulgaria – Emilia Begunova
Canada – Eric Boudreau
Chile – Joe Willie Jones
Croatia – Ante Listic
Czech – Ondrej Panenka (Martin Prochazka)
Denmark – Jakob Faerch
Finland – Risto Kantola
Germany – Peter Micheler
Great Britain – Deb Cook
Indonesia - Amalia Yunita
Italy - Danilo Barmaz
Japan – Shige Asano
Netherlands – Pieter Bekkers (Dirk Ladiges)
New Zealand – Raewyn Larcombe, Nick Chater
Russia – Oleg Grigoriev
Serbia - Boris Purjakov (M Furtula, Z Rajkovic)
Slovakia – Jozef Kytka
Slovenia – Milan Lovrencic
South Africa – Sue Liell-Cock
USA – Joe Willie Jones as proxy

Establish Quorum: *25 members out of 46 voting members. Quorum is established*

- 9 . Election of new BOD members:

- *President: Rafael Gallo is not opposed for retaining this position and so gets a unanimous vote*
- *1st Vice President: Peter Micheler similarly gets this position*
- *2nd Vice President: Robert Kazik similarly gets this position*
- *Secretary: Sue Liell-Cock similarly gets this position*
- *Guide Training & Education: Gaspar Goncz similarly gets this position*
- *International Relations: Jakob Faerch similarly gets this position*
- *Media & Marketing: Pieter Bekkers is the only one standing for this position and so gets a unanimous vote.*
- *Recreational Rafting & Conservation: Shigeto Asano and Deb Cook are both standing for this position. Deb wins this vote.*
- *Sport & Competition Head: Oleg Grigoriev and Joe Willie Jones both stood for this position. Oleg won this election.*
- *No one is keen to stand for Treasurer. Sue asked Joe if he wished to stand as he'd then be on the BOD and it would only involve checking the accounts once a year as Sue handle all the accounts anyway. He felt he wanted to DO something in the IRF though and not just be a place holder.*
- *Alex Pastir explains what work he would like to do as the IRF Development Officer (appointed as such in May 2009). He'd like to take rafting to new levels through totally different channels. He questions whether he can do this efficiently without being on the BOD.*
- *A proposal was made to accept Alex Pastir as a candidate. Sue pointed out that according to our Bylaws candidates had to be announced 2 weeks ahead of the Congress so that Member feds could discuss it and let their representatives know who they would like to vote for.*
- *Ondrej pointed out that the Congress had ultimate power and could change this.*
- *A vote was held whether to accept Alex as a late candidate. Answer = unanimous yes.*
- *A proposal was also made to increase the BOD so as to include more people. The vote was: 1) to increase to 11 people (12 votes); 12 people (1 vote). It was also voted that this would be an exception to the rule and not be made a permanent change.*
- *The Congress then voted for Alex Pastir to be Treasurer / Development Officer*
- *And for Joe Willie Jones to be 2nd Head of Sport & Competition. Having two persons handling S&C is a great idea as there is a huge amount that could be done with this portfolio.*

End of Main Congress meeting.

IRF CONGRESS 2011 – member and BOD proposals for
Main Congress meeting 6 Oct 2011

**Proposal 1: IRF and Adventure Travel and Trade Association
(ATTA) Association**
from Rafael Gallo (BOD)

The (ATTA), an international membership-based professional association made up of more than 730 adventure travel businesses around the world, is looking for national and regional adventure and eco-travel focused associations like ours to join its Association Partner program.

This program would provide our organization with:

1. A FREE ATTA corporate Membership with all benefits (see a list of benefits at <http://www.adventuretravel.biz/membership-industry.asp>)
2. a 40% discount to all our members off ATTA Memberships for their own companies

In addition to providing our association their complete list of quality membership benefits, it also opens up communications between our associations at a different level.

Additionally, it gives the IRF another membership benefit to promote, further assisting our own continued recruitment of new members.

A comprehensive overview of the entire program can be downloaded at http://www.adventuretravel.biz/docs/atta_assoc_partners.pdf. The document: details their motives, explains our potential benefits, lists all of their current AP members, includes some tour operator testimonials, and concludes with a draft MOU.

Decision: Do we agree to join the ATTA Association Partner program?

Proposal 2: Medals
From Sue Liell-Cock (BOD)

Medals are costing the IRF a fortune because more events are being added each year (Youth, Masters, R4 and R6 at Euro Champs, etc). The costs of medals are high and sometimes they could be made cheaper locally, plus the cost of sending the medals to the event location is high and not always reliable. Requests have also been made to get local character into medals.

Race Rule O.5. says: Medals for A- and B-Level events:-

3. Can be provided by the IRF or the host organisation
4. The host organisation needs to let the IRF know at least 3 months ahead of the event as to whether they wish to have the IRF provide the medals or if they wish to provide the medals themselves.
5. The host is to cover the costs of getting the medals transported to them.

Suggest changing it to:

3. Can be provided by the IRF or the host organisation
4. The host organisation needs to let the IRF know at least 3 months ahead of the event as to whether they wish to have the IRF's ~~provide the~~ medals or if they wish to provide their own medals ~~themselves~~.

5. The host is to cover the costs of **the medals as well as** getting the medals transported to them.

The decision is therefore:

- 1) IRF continues paying for the medals (this will mean hosting fees for these events will have to increase accordingly.) OR
- 2) Organisers pay for the medals

Proposal 3: Increase in IRF Fees for 2012/2013 from BOD

The IRF fees have not been increased since 2007. As we need more funding to run the IRF we would like to propose the following changes:

Member fees:

Established Member - \$500 per year for 2 year period of 2012 and 2013 (Was \$400)

Ordinary Member- \$200 per team at WRC; \$100 per team at Continental Champs; Youth and Masters teams = \$100 at WRC; \$50 at Continentals (Was \$150, \$75 and free for Youth and Masters)

Hosting fees:

WRC - \$5000 hosting fee. Plus a \$10,000 deposit returned 1 month after the event if all well. Reason for big deposit - we need to have some cash of theirs incase they cancel with less than a year to go. Has proven useful before. (Was \$10,000 hosting fee and \$5000 deposit.)

Euro Champs - \$1000 if Proposal 2.2 above is approved OR \$3000 if Proposal 2.1 is approved plus a \$4000 deposit. Reason - Euro Champs have as many teams attending as the WRCs and create an enormous amount of work. Plus they are usually R4 and R6. (Was \$1000 plus \$4000 deposit which didn't even cover the medals.)

Australasian and Pan American Champs - \$500 if Proposal 2.2 above is approved OR \$1500 if Proposal 2.1 is approved (unless it is R4 and R6 - then it should be \$2500 to cover the medals) plus a \$3000 deposit.. (These championships are struggling and need to be encouraged.)

Euro Cup - 100 Euro per event (was US\$100)