



Guide Training and Education Report - Congress 2019 by Gaspar Goncz (Chair GTE)

13 & 15 May, Tully, Queensland, Australia

IRF GTE committee hereby assesses its annual activities, results and stats, as well as outlines a draft of the y2020's Strategic Plan.

Most recognizable GTE Stats 2018:

- **2395 Active Certificates in 66 countries**
(2011 = 805, 2013 = 1393, 2015 = 1693, 2017 = 1972)
- **140 Active instructors organizing courses in 41 countries**
- **746 new assessments in 2018**
- **23.000 USD contribution for the general functioning of the IRF in 2018**

Established and in function:

- Training a new generation of motivated and professional IRF Instructors
- Global Assessment Standards
- Regular Assessments, Workshops and Guide Training Programs on 5 continents
- Dynamic growth in the number of IRF Raft Guide certificates
- Safety Kayak promoted as a professional certificate
- Annual IRF GTE conference
- Promoting event safety standards for raft races, established for WRC and ERC
- Mark Hirst (IRF Assessor) functioning as IRF GTE Secretary

Have been kicked off and development continuing:

- *IRF Rafting Operators Best Practice Certificate* (providing administration tools and promoting safety standards)
- Reintroducing the IRF Scheme in the US, working on gaining more members
- Regional Assessors system, representing the IRF and supervising key geographical areas
- Updating and developing all IRF GTE documentation and resources. New IRF award structure document available on the website

Draft of the y2020's Strategic Plan:

The following bullet points shall be included in the y2020 Strategic Plan:

- Restructuring IRF GTE for better functioning
- IRF Rafting Operators Best Practice Certificate to be finalized and promoted
- IRF GTE Conference 2020

- New assessors – finalizing process for a number of new applicants
- Change administration to an automatized online system, optimizing administration, card printing costs and a better client service. Working on a daily based support and email answering.
- Online IRF certificates replacing plastic cards
- Implementing IRF Event Safety / Rescue certificates
- The IRF Scheme has become stable enough to get legalized on National levels. It has been delivered across National Rafting Federations in 6 countries. This gives us further opportunity to take on more and more countries.
- “Getting things done and getting closer to reach our goals” does not work effectively on a volunteer base, as outlined in SPs since 2008! People in the constant line-up of daily workload and in active working status will need to be remunerated and further such colleagues will need to be recruited!
- In long term: Start EU implementation of the AS through National systems

More information about IRF GTE in detail here: <http://www.internationalrafting.com/gte/>

Gaspar Göncz (IRF Second Vice President, Chair of Guide Training and Education)