

Minutes WRRC Presidium meeting

Ljubljana, 25.& 26.01.2015

Present: M. Mohab (MM), K. Kis (KK), D. Lilih (DL), K. Tihonova (KT), E. Pagano (EP), Marina Eskolin (ME), M. Kerpan Izak (MKI)

Wrrc Office: K. Bosnar (KB)

Guest: Miklos Horvath (only for item expansion)

Minutes: M. Kerpan Izak

The president welcomed all Presidium members for the meeting.
The meeting started on Sunday at 09:30 at City Hotel in Ljubljana.

Item 1 Approval of Minutes Last Presidium meeting

The minutes were approved. Some decisions are still in process.
In the Minutes from Rimini decision (40) there is a mistake. Following our statute the provisional membership is awarded for 3 years.

Item 2 Expansion

MKI asked Presidium members if Miklos Horvath could be present during the item expansion since he has gained a lot of experience in recent years and he has expressed the willingness for further cooperation with WRRC and participation in the expansion project.
Presidium agreed.

KT presented the detailed plan for expansion for the year 2015, the priority locations, estimated costs and the importance of follow up which could be achieved by nominating "WRRC Curators" who will be responsible for development of RR and BW in the contracted country.

She further explained the detailed requirement, experience and tasks of a Curator and the proposed payment.

She presented possible candidates for Lecturers and Curators and their experience. She pointed out the importance of supporting written material when introducing WRRC in a new country and a need to create a suitable "Franchise package" where all important information could be found in one place.

She presented a promotional video with simple dance elements from different swing dances to be used as a presentation video. MKI advised that the elements must be reviewed and approved by the specialists from the respective dance style before going public.

Together with KK they presented the proposed educational module (M1, M2, M3) which could be used for beginner with possible upgrades for an advanced level.

MKI reported about the feedback from WDSF Presidium regarding our efforts in the expansion project. She emphasized the importance of cooperation with local WDSF member in each new country which we approach. She also explained the willingness from WDSF President Carlos Freitag and the head of WDSF Membership Commission Marco Sietas to assist us when we approach existing WDSF members with our goal to develop RR and BW in a new country. When we address WDSF member federations it must be clear we don't seek a direct involvement from their side (unless they wish to do so), but their willingness and support to include RR and BW into their federation or find a suitable way of cooperation between existing WDSF member federation and the group/federations which is developing RR/BW in the country.

She presented also some possible meeting/events where we could organize a presentation and some workshops in cooperation with WDSF (Africa in May, Congress in China, and show during the GrandSlam final in Shanghai december 2015)).

The priority locations, possible lecturers, budget structure, cooperation with WDSF, past experience and other items were discussed by Presidium members. The following decisions have been made

- (78) Presidium approves the proposed Contract for WRRC Curators with amendments set in the meeting:
- The duration of the contract – until the end of 2016. Basic requirements – active participants on WRRC Main Class World Championship latest by 2016.
 - For achieving this goal already in 2015, a special bonus will be applicable.
 - The fee for the Curator is 1.000 € per year. The fee is payable only if the conditions are met.
 - The Curator is responsible to pay the taxes in his/her respective country.
 - One trip to a contracted country will be also paid by WRRC but only if the amount is approved in advance by WRRC President, WRRC VP Expansion and WRRC Finance Director.
 - Only the Presidium is authorised to appoint the curators. The candidates must meet required conditions and have to prepare a short presentation of themselves, their experience and their general plan of action.
 - Each appointed Curator will receive a WRRC certificate which will authorise him to act in the name of WRRC. WRRC will also issue business cards for appointed curators.
- (79) Presidium appoints Miklos Horvath from Hungary as a curator for Australia and New Zealand from January 2015 until December 2016.
- (80) Presidium approves the Master Class in Peru & Cuba with the lecturers Ivana Mihalic and Neven Ivic if the costs are maintained inside the proposed budget.
- (81) All potential lecturers have to make a short video presentation where it could be clearly seen how they will teach the required RR/BW elements requested in expansion project Master classes. Only Presidium is authorised to approve the proposed lecturers based on their experience and video presentation.
- (82) All promotional and educational material must be approved by Presidium before it can be used or sent to WRRC members or potential new partners.

Item 3 Marketing

KT presented a strategic plan how to increase the income in WRRC. Apart from the resources which we already use, there are two major possible funding sources:

- Sponsors
- Sales of various WRRC products and services (educational courses and material for dancers, trainers and judges, DVDs, soundtracks, WRRC merchandise...)

She presented the sponsorship package for potential big sponsor for WRRC. The first negotiations are planned for February 2015. Until the contract is fixed, the name is not be revealed.

During this item we discussed again the production and sales of WRRC music in connection of musical rights. Before issuing any official sales, this item has to be clarified. EP was appointed to check this issue with Casa Musica.

The possible sales items were discussed and priorities set for 2015.

- (83) KT was appointed as responsible for the negotiation with possible sponsor(s).
- (84) The priority sales items for 2015 are the education modules for expansion (M1, M2, M3), the webinars for judges and franchise package. Responsible KK, KT and DL.

Item 4 Membership

Presidium discussed about the activity of current provisional members. Some of them are really showing progress (Lebanon, India) and are fully active but some others are still in process of developing first couples and have not been able to send any couple to WRRRC events.

For USA and Mexico the period of provisional membership expired. We shall request the activity report, their future plans and their requested to remain WRRRC members.

For other provisional members we shall monitor closely their activities and offer them some help if needed.

MKI reported about a long discussion regarding existing (and new) WRRRC members in relationship with WDSF members on national level. Following the associated membership contract both WDSF and WRRRC members are obliged to work together and look for a suitable solution for a partnership in countries where there are still two unconnected federations. WDSF Presidium will set a condition that only countries where federations cooperate can send couples to World Games 2017. The matter will be discussed on forums during WDSF AGM and WRRRC AGM.

We have received two new applications for membership in WRRRC. Both applications are OK, for Moldova we will request cooperation with WDSF Member, in Kazakhstan the federation which applied for membership is in fact the one recognized by NOC and WDSF member is connected to them.

- (85) The new provisional WRRRC Members are:
- Moldova: Federatia de Rock and Roll Acrobatic din Republica Moldova, lead by Marina Tauber
 - Kazakhstan: "Modern and Sport Dance Federation" of the Republic of Kazakhstan, lead by Aliya Tussupbekova

On Sunday at 17:30 Katerina Tikhonova excused herself and left the meeting for unavoidable commitments (as already agreed when planning the meeting). She consequently approved the decisions for the points where she was not present.

Item 5 General meeting 2015

Italy has changed the location of GM from Milano to Rome due to unacceptable hotel offer in Milano. The announcement of GM and all necessary information has been sent out to all WRRRC Members together with provisional time table for the meeting.

Presidium discussed about planned activities for the meeting, possible workshops and other details. The office shall remind members to send motions in due time. Presidium motions will be prepared based on decisions from this meeting.

- (86) Schedule of meetings GM weekend Rome 2015
- Thursday March 12, 2015
 - i. Arrival Presidium and dinner in hotel (20:30)
 - Friday March 13, 2015
 - i. Presidium meeting 10.00 – 17.00
 - Boogie Woogie and formation commissioner are invited to the meeting
 - Saturday March 14, 2015
 - i. New judging system Boogie Woogie (AN) 09:30 – 11:00
 - ii. Education and Expansion (KK, KT) 11:15 – 12:15
 - iii. New Regulations (MM) 12:20 – 13:00

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| iv. Lunch (20 € per person – buffet style) | 13:30 – 15:00 |
| v. NJS – feedback & improvement (DL) | 15:00 – 16:00 |
| vi. Open forum | 16:15 – 17:30 |
| vii. City tour & dinner | 18:30 – 23:00 |
| - Sunday March 15, 2015 | |
| i. Registration of delegates | 09:00 – 09:30 |
| ii. General meeting
(with snack break at 11:30) | 09:30 – 15:00 |
- (87) The work of Presidium will be presented as an Overview. EP is appointed to prepare a draft.
- (88) The Office will send a questionnaire to all member federations about their status and cooperation with WDSF in their country.
- (89) The provisional Agenda of the GM will be published latest February 5, the final Agenda will follow in due time after all Motions are received.

Item 6 Finance

Balance sheet and budget

ME reported about the balance sheet for 2015. Both expenses and income were higher than planned mostly because more activity went on around education. The final result is as planned. The income from membership fee has decreased although we have more members than in previous years. The reason is that we have different amount of membership fee based on the size of each federation. Since we have introduced the registration fee for dancers such a differentiation is not needed anymore. We shall propose a change of Fee Scale for 2016.

The budget for 2015 has been discussed as well. All Presidium members have presented the planned expenses and income for the projects which they supervise, extra funds will be need for NJS BW and we will invest more into the expansion, marketing, education, PR and communication.

MM proposed some editorial changes for Fee Scale for a better clarification.

WRRC bank account

In previous years we have experienced some problems with existing bank and the bank account we use in WRRC. The bank account is opened in Switzerland and in the past we have used the address from D. Bachmann as our official address in Switzerland. Since he is no longer in Presidium we need to change the address. The new address shall not be connected for an individual person. ME Eskolin reported about the option to open a new account at Credit Suisse.

Observer seminar and exam in Munich. DL proposed the fees to be paid for lecturers in Munich.

- (90) Presidium approved the final version of balance sheet for 2014 and budget 2015 which will be presented for final approval at GM 2015 in Rome.
- (91) All Presidium members are obliged to follow the planned expenses for each project. In special cases, where extra funds are needed, they have to be approved in advance by WRRC Presidium.
- (92) Presidium approved the proposed changes of Fee Scale regarding membership fee valid from 01.01.2016 Full Members 800 €, provisional Members 200 €, Extraordinary members 400 €. Additional to this Presidium approved some editorial changes in Fee Scale. The proposed changes of Fee Scale will be presented for final approval at GM in Rome.
- (93) WRRC Presidium approved the proposed change of the official address for WRRC in Switzerland to be used for financial and taxation purposes. The new address is:
World Rock'n'Roll Confederation (WRRC)
Postfach 958,
8812 Neuhausen, Schweiz

- (94) WRRC Presidium authorized Marina Eskolin the WRRC Financial Director to open a new WRRC bank account at the Credit Suisse bank in Zurich. The authorized persons to access the bank account shall be WRRC President Miriam Kerpan Izak and Marina Eskolin WRRC Financial director. WRRC Presidium authorized Marina Eskolin to close the existing account by the end of 2015 – when all transactions will be moved to the new account.
- (95) The lecturers for the observer seminar in Munich will be paid the daily fee in amount of 100 € per day. No additional fee for the lectures will be paid.

Item 7 PR& Communication

EP prepared and produced promotional WRRC merchandise – pins, pens, business folders and presentation folders. He distributed some to Presidium members for further use; more will be available at GM in Rome.

He proposed that we shall reintroduce the WRRC Year Book. He also proposed that we make a paid promotion of our Facebook page after we publish some important news or after big events. The applicable fee is minimal. Also KT exposed this issue already under the marketing topics – she proposed that we introduce a social media manager (SMM).

We discussed about the introduction of the dancer of the year award.

KB presented the draft of the new WRRC Home Page. It is an easy manageable CMS system and we could make some design changes when evaluating the proposal. Generally all the requirements are met; some editorial changes are still needed as well the incorporation of WRRC on-line page and RegSW. Presidium members will need to provide the desired articles, photos, videos and other material.

- (96) EP is responsible to produce WRRC Year book 2014. It shall be available on WRRC GM in Rome for the delegates and later in bigger quantity for dancers, WDSF AGM delegates in for the use in expansion and marketing project.
- (97) EP is responsible to prepare the rules for the dancer of the year award.
- (98) Presidium approved the draft of new WRRC Home Page. It must be prepared for live on 1.3.2015. When going live with the new page we also change the hosting of domain and internet provider.
- (99) Presidium approved promotional activities on social media we use to reach broader audience

The meeting stopped at 18:30 on Sunday.
The meeting restarted at 09:00 on Monday.

Item 8 Competitions

Competitions general:

Presidium discussed the competition calendar and MKI explained that we have some events in December which collide. We have asked the organizers if they can move the date and Kharkov did it but unfortunately it collides again with Lyon (because they changed their first date in order to avoid 3 main class events in 3 weeks). We will try to move Kharkov to 28.11.2015.

Presidium would like to advise the members and potential organizers to check the WRRC calendar before they book the hall and apply for the event.

Presidium reviewed the announced Supervisors, added missing ones and MKI informed everyone that a new assistant will be used in Protocol team – Kirill Zuev from Russia. We will use him in order to lower the costs for the competition Protocol.

Some additional competitions for 2015 were discussed. Russia has sent an application for not granted events in 2015 and some extension for 2016. Russia has proved as a good organizer during recent years, and the only reservation which Presidium has, is the costs for formation events. We proposed to the organizer to look for an option of compensating some costs in order to guarantee maximum participation.

European Masters Games

MKI informed everyone about **European Masters Games** where the dancers aged 35+/40+ can take part. The next edition will be organized in **Nice France** in October 2015. DanceSport will be represented by Standard, Latin and Boogie Woogie. The Boogie Woogie event will be organized on Friday, **October 2, 2015**. For Boogie Woogie the WRRC competition rules for seniors apply. Only WRRC registered couples can take part, there is no limitation in number of couples from each country. The interested couples have to be announced by WRRC registration system and additionally everyone has to register on the web Page for European Masters Games since special conditions apply to take part. A registration fee is requested – the fee was set by organizational team, WRRC and WDSF had no influence to this fee.

World Games 2017

Rock'n'Roll is officially included in World Games 2017. We were granted 28 participants – it means 14 couples and we have to send couples from at least 3 continents, otherwise we can forget the next edition. It will be also essential to send the couples from countries where WRRC member is connected with national WDSF Member.

Judging panels 2015

DL presented the proposed structure of judging panels for 2015. He basically followed the structure as decided at GM 2014 regarding the number of possible places for each country. It is not possible to use all the criteria all the time since it would end up in unbalanced structure of panels. Also the age criterion was not considered this since otherwise some countries would be left only with one or two judges.

- (100) New approved events are:
 - Addition to Kazan 2015 – on Sunday, November 8, 2015
ECh. RR Formation Juniors, EC RR Girl Formation Main Class
 - Lyon, France, 12.12.2015
World Masters RR & BW, WC BW Juniors
 - Sochi Russia, 19./20.11.2016
WCh RR Youth/Juniors, WC RR B Class
WCh RR Formation Juniors and Main Class
- (101) Presidium approves Kirill Zuev as new assistant Protocol. Generally we shall look for an option to use a local person as second protocol in countries where they are familiar with NJS and WRRC competition software.
- (102) Presidium approved the proposed judging panels for 2015 and agreed that the limitation of age will not yet be applicable in 2015 but other requirements following the decision (14) from GM2014 were used when compiling the judging panels and awarding jobs to the countries.

Item 9 Sport Topics

NJS RR

For the events in 2014 where NJS has been used we have collected feedback from different officials and participants. DL has set up two NJS group meetings in order to discuss the possibilities for improvement and to set the valid version of rules and description for 2015. The group prepared extra definitions where they proved to be inadequate; they specified in details the mistakes table and created only one general table where the differences between main Class and B class are also described.

Additionally to this KK and MKI have prepared an overview of all Safety Levels and KK has prepared SL3 catalogue with most frequent figures. Just for clarifications: the SL3 is not limited to the figures in the catalogue; the couples can still do other figures if they follow SL3 rules.

Presidium reviewed all the proposed changes and additional material.

Presidium would like to congratulate the whole NJS RR group for their hard work and commitment. All the proposed changes were acceptable for the Presidium.

Furthermore DL reported that it would be more than welcome to add another person to the group. He proposed Natalia Paivina from Russia.

Presidium discussed also some options how to minimize the influence from a score from an individual judge whose final points are far away from others. Possible changes of calculation will be discussed on net PM, but generally on competitions with 5 judges or more for artistic/acrobatic panel, the highest and the lowest mark will be deleted.

With implementation of NJS WRRRC has also changed the number of points deducted for a yellow card. From the competitions in 2014 we have realized that the deduction was set so high that the couple had almost no chance to pass to the next round what is not really the aim of Yellow card.

- (103) Presidium confirmed all the proposed changes of NJS documentation. The new version of documents **NJS_201501** shall be published on WRRRC Home Page and Facebook. The members must be informed. All previous versions will be removed. The only valid version for competitions, seminars, examinations.. is version 201501!
- (104) Presidium confirmed Natalia Paivina as additional member of RR NJS working group
- (105) An overview document for NJS will be prepared linked to WRRRC tournament rules for clearer interpretation. In all documents it will also be clearly marked which official is responsible to score/control each topic. The calculation of the results will be included in this general document.
- (106) The calculation of the final result will be altered as follows: For categories where 5 or more judges are judging artistic or acrobatic part, the highest and the lowest note will be discarded and the result will be calculated using the remaining scores.
- (107) For NJS RR the deduction of a yellow card is set to -3 points. Valid from 1.1.2015

NJS formations will be discussed after GM where we plan to organize a forum in order to see what is the future if Main Class formations, how can we get more formations, how can we motivate countries to participate also in this category.

Education

Observer Seminar Munich

All is prepared for the seminar. The documentation has been distributed to all announced participants. Most of the existing Observers decided to prefer judging so they will not continue as Observers. We had to move the location to suburbs of Munich because a big ISPO fair is going on during the same period and prices in Munich were extremely high with limited availability.

Presidium discussed again the conditions to become an active WRRC Observer and persons who can be excused from the examination and can receive the WRRC Observer certificate. Additionally the status of Katalin Kis as a WRRC judge has been discussed.

- (108) For a person to become an active WRRC Observer the following conditions are set:
 - He must be a WRRC certified Observer
 - He must be in to NN % percent of the Observers on the examination
 - He must renew his licence following WRRC rules

- He has to speak English on advanced level so he can discuss all important items on the competitions without linguistic barrier
- (109) The following persons are awarded as WRRRC Certified Observer without necessity to pass the examination: Katalin Kis, Denis Lilih, Fred Pasqualin, Kresimir Bosnar, Miriam Kerpan Izak
- (110) Katalin Kis is awarded WRRRC judge license.

Education material

KK presented the plan for 2015 regarding more educational material to be used in expansion project or for training of dancers, teachers and judges. As a first priority the modules for expansion will be prepared as well as webinars for WRRRC judges. A methodological book will follow.

RR Seminars and examination in 2015

DL presented the plan for 2nd examination date for new RR judges and additional seminar for existing judges (1 day) in 2015. All dates will be published in WRRRC calendar.

BW – NJS & General

Presidium had a lengthily discussion about the proposal of BW NJS. The working group has done a great job, considered many details and made a big step forward to more objective and transparent judging.

Some details are still to be discussed and Presidium will inform the working group about them. The implementation date can only be 1.1.2016 since they also influence the judging panels.

The budget for the project was discussed under the item finance.

The biggest obstacle for the whole concept is the number of required officials on combined RR and BW events. Such events will become even more expensive as today but on the other hand they are the most attractive ones. We need to carefully select the amount of officials for such events and perhaps there is still some space to change BW NJS concept and number of required officials.

There was no BW judging seminar in 2014 so all WRRRC judges have to visit the seminar in 2015 in order to renew their licence. The seminar dates will be published on WRRRC Calendar. The seminars will be already organized following some ideas of BW NJS since the scoring criteria has the same basis. The aim of the seminars is to improve the general knowledge of BW judges.

- (111) Presidium confirmed the BW NJS concept with comments which will be forwarded to the NJS working group. The NJS working group is authorized to start a general discussion about the proposal, but the final proposal must be fixed three weeks before the GM in order to be able to make a motion for acceptance of NJS BW. The implementation date cannot be before 1.1.2016.
- (112) Presidium approved the seminar dates for BW WRRRC judges. The seminars will include also some basic test. The fee for each participant is set to 100 €. All judges nominated to judge WRRRC competitions in 2015 (except Winterthur) are requested to visit the seminar before they judge.

Marina Eskolin left the meeting, she had an early flight – she consequently approved the decisions for the points where she was not present.

Other sport topics

Russia has sent a request for RR “A” pool RR for Kirill Levkov. They have included all requested documentation and explanation.

Presidium discussed a lot about musical rights, compilation of new music, and possible creation of our own RR songs. The topic will be discussed again on the next meeting. Presidium members will seek advice regarding musical rights using different channels.

Presidium discussed about WRRRC age groups, naming of WRRRC categories and introduction of a new category for adults –Rock'n'Roll dance show. In most of the sports the category "Youth" means athletes just before adult category – mostly teenagers. Also a Youth Olympiad is organized and it would be appropriate to change the name of this category,

Further discussion will follow and details will be set on a later PM this year but an overall decision has been made.

- (113) WRRRC will introduce a new category "Rock'n'roll dance show". Basically it will be a dance category with some acrobatics allowed (similar to SL3). The age limit will be 16 years or older. All couples with proper age group (juniors, B class, Main class) will be allowed to compete. The World Cups will be organized initially for this category. The dancing time will be 1:00 min before finals and 1:30 to 1:45 in the final (subject to further discussion). The detailed regulations shall be prepared by KK and DL for the next PM. They have to prepare also the final proposal of naming the categories and age groups. Implementation 1.1.2016.

Presidium discussed also about the already proposed idea of voluntary judges. It has to be clear to everyone this is just an option to nominate several persons to the events where country has already been included in judging panel without additional costs for the organizers. The idea behind is to enable more judges to judge events with several categories when they are in situation to arrive together by car and share the hotel. In order to enable this change in tournament rules is needed:

- (114) The membership association which was selected to send a WRRRC-Judge to an international tournament with more than one competition is entitled to send a second WRRRC-Judge **at its own expense**. (Exception: Continental or World Championships) The Sport-Director shall be responsible for assigning the tasks to the second WRRRC-Judge in the respective competition.

With implementation of NJS RR and BW the documentation is getting bigger and more complex. We would also like to use it for presentation purpose in expansion and marketing. It is essential that we always have only one version of each regulation in one place and not in several documents. MKI will prepare a proposal to use special software for compiling different sets of documentation into one document. Deadline - next PM.

Item 10 Doping

MM reported about changes in WDSF doping rules as a consequence of changes in WADA. He has been in contact with the WDSF Chair of anti-Doping Commission who explained him that some changes are necessary in order to comply with the latest version of the rules.

The status of International athlete has to be established, a professional statement regarding the usability of doping in our sport and in consequence the need of OCT has to be prepared and each dancer has to sign the Consent in person (for minor the parents need to sign).

- (115) Presidium confirmed requested changes. We will formulate the appropriate rules when Chair of WDSF Anti-doping commission confirms that our formulation is correct. We will include an upload option for ID/passport and signed form of consent to our Reg Sw. The office will only confirm the new dancers if the documents will be complete. The fast registration for 2015 will be possible without the documents. They have to be delivered to WRRRC office latest before GM 2015 otherwise the registration will be cancelled.

Item 11 WDSF

MKI reported about the topics discussed during the WDSF Presidium meeting in Barcelona connected with WRRC. The topics have already been covered under other items.

WDSF AGM weekend will take part on June 13-14, 2015 in Granada Spain.
MKI will attend the AGM and related PM as a WDSF Presidium Member. MM and KT will attend the AGM as WRRC delegates.

Item 12 Any other business

Next Presidium meeting will take part on March 13, 2015 in Rome during the GM weekend. Boogie Woogie and Formation Commissioner are invited to take part. The PM will start at 10 a.m.

There were no additional items to discuss.

The President thanked all members for extremely productive weekend and closed the meeting on Monday at 15:45.

Miriam Kerpan Izak
WRRC President

