

**MINUTES OF THE 70TH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
 TUESDAY, 8th March 2022 AT 18.00HRS (BST) / 19.00HRS (CET) AND
 RECONVENED ON 9TH March 2022 HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Present:	Claudio Schermi	CS	EDBF President	ITA	
	Ute Becker-Frenzel	UBF	EDBF Vice-President	GER	
	Valerii Morgun	VM	EDBF Vice President	UKR	
	Anna Socratous	AS	EDBF Vice President	CYP	
	Peter Jarosi	PJ	EDBF Vice President	PJ	
	Maura Dezi	MD	EDBF Treasurer	ITA	
	Thomas Arbeiter	TA	Member Representative	GER	
	Niko Cuca	NC	Member Representative	SRB	
	Robin Magnusson	RM	Member Representative	SWE	
	Neil Pickles	NP	Member Representative	GBR	
	Andrew Menzies	AM	Full Member's Representative	GBR	
	Andries Boneschansker	AB	C&T Commission Chair	NLD	
	Dusko Spasovski	DS	M&SS Commission Chair	SRB	
	Paola Pochesci	PP	Women's Commission Chair	ITA	
	Alexey Morgun	AM	Youth Commission Chair	UKR	
	Michela Scacchetti	MS	M&M Commission Chair	ITA	
	In Attendance:	Mike MacKeddie-Haslam	MMH	EDBF President of Honour	GBR
		Leila Ataei	LA	M&SS Commission Vice Chair	CYP
		Christian Tänzler	CT	M&M Commission Vice Chair	GER
Nigel Bedford		NB	IDBF Paradrasons Commission	GBR	
Mike Thomas		MT	IDBF President	GBR	
Yvonne-Meyer		YM	Women's Commission member	GER	
Apologies	Julie Doyle	JD	EDBF Secretary General	IRL	
	Alan Van Caubergh	AC	EDBF Honorary President	NLD	
Minutes Secretary:	Leila Ataei				

AGENDA

1. Welcome Address by the EDBF President / Roll Call.
2. Confirmation of the Agenda.
3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the Previous EDBF Council Meeting.
4. European Nations Championship Update/Contingency Plans.
5. Letter from Ukraine Dragon Boat Federation.
6. Any Other Business.
7. Date, Time and Place of the Next Meeting.

<u>Item</u>		<u>Action</u>
<u>1.00</u>	<p><u>Welcome Address</u></p> <p>CS welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
<u>2.00</u>	<p><u>Confirmation of Agenda</u></p> <p>The agenda was approved as presented.</p>	
<u>3.00</u>	<p><u>Acceptance of the Minutes of the Previous EDBF Council Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the 69th Council Meeting held 8th February 2022 were accepted.</p>	
<u>4.00</u>	<p><u>European Nations Championship Update/Contingency Plan.</u></p> <p>CS reminded the meeting of the previous discussions on the possible postponement or cancellation of holding the 2022 EDBF Nations Championships in Kiev, due to the invasion of the Ukraine by Russia. CS informed the meeting that a letter had been sent to all EDBF Members requesting them to submit bids to hold the Nations Champs but only two applications had been received, from Dubai and Barcelona, respectively. Barcelona had not confirmed its bid.</p>	
<u>4.01</u>	<p>After lengthy discussion it was agreed that it would be preferable for an EDBF Member to host the 2022 Championships, within Europe and that all EDBF Members should be sent a further letter reminding them that the deadline date for bids was 21 March 2022, after which a decision on the location for the 2022 Championships would be made for the EDBF Congress on 2 April 2022 to ratify.</p>	
<u>5.00</u>	<p><u>Letter from Ukraine Dragon Boat Federation – sanctions on EDBF Member for Russia</u></p> <p>CS informed the meeting that the EDBF had received a letter from the President of the Ukraine DBF (VM) asking for the EDBF to sanction the EDBF Member for Russia because of Russia's invasion of the Ukraine. The text of the UKRDBF letter was as follows:-</p>	
<u>5.01</u>	<p><i>The Russian Federation with the support of the Republic of Belarus has started the new wave of aggression against Ukraine. This is an act of war, an attack on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, a brutal violation of the UN Charter and basic norms and principles of the international law as well as the principles of the Olympic Charter and the Olympic Truce.</i></p> <p><i>We join the call of the International Olympic Committee to all International Sports Federations to relocate or cancel their sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus. We also urge all International Sports Federations do not consider these countries for hosting of any future sport events before these governments stop military aggression against Ukraine and restore respect to the principles of international law.</i></p> <p><i>We demand from the European Dragon Boat Federation:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Exclude Russia and Republic of Belarus from all sports international governing bodies.</i> <i>2. Ban any Russian and Republic of Belarus athletes from participating in any international competitions.</i> <i>3. Stop the sale of rights to broadcasts of international sporting competitions to Russian and Republic of Belarus media.</i> <i>4. Prohibit Russian and Republic of Belarus companies from being sponsors of international competitions and clubs.</i> <i>5. Support Ukraine with information! Join to sharing true information about actions of the aggressor countries!</i> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>President V. MORGUN</i></p>	

5.02

There was a lengthy debate on what type of sanctions, if any, should be made by the EDBF Council concerning the EDBF Member for Russia and Dragon Boaters from Russia taking part in EDBF Events. The views of the Council were evenly split between those wishing to fully sanction Russian Teams and athletes from EDBF events and those who felt to exclude Russian athletes entirely, rather than letting them compete as 'Neutral' competitors, instead of 'Russian' competitors, may be too extreme a sanction.

It was agreed that a vote should not be taken but that the Council should reconvene the following evening (9 March) for a final discussion on the issues involved and then agree an EDBF statement, to be sent to all EDBF Members.

5.03.

RECONVENED MEETING 9th March 2022 at 18.00 (GMT), 19.00 (CET).

Absent on the 9th Mar - Maura Dezi, Michela Scacchetti, Thomas Arbeiter (voting), Yvonne Meyer. Asked to leave the meeting; VM, AM from the Ukraine (voting members). Attending as the Members Rep for Germany Christian Tänzer (voting). Present on the 9th March only - Alan Van Caubergh (non-voting).

5.04

CS placed before the meeting a draft EDBF statement for the Council to consider. In discussion some minor amendments to the wording were made and the following agreed statement was passed by the Council, with 6 votes for, 5 abstentions and no votes against. As the meeting Chairholder, with a casting vote, CS did not vote. The agreed statement was:-

The European Dragon Boat Federation (EDBF) totally condemns the current war against the sovereign state and people of Ukraine initiated by Russia and now supported by Belarus. The EDBF stands with Ukraine. The EDBF also stands with other international sports bodies in deciding to act against Russia and Belarus.

The Russian Association of Paddle Sports represents Russia within the EDBF; Belarus currently has no affiliation to EDBF but is subject to this statement.

The EDBF is a founding continental federation of the International Dragon Boat federation and supports their statement made on 5 March 2022 and will continue to follow their policy on the participation of Russia and Belarus in international dragon boat competitions.

Today, the EDBF Council decided to exclude Russian national and club teams from EDBF competitions for the foreseeable future and with immediate effect.

The EDBF Council noted that there are athletes and officials with Russian and Belarussian nationality who are legally resident in EDBF Member countries and wishes to make it clear that their right to participate, under their adopted Nation, is currently not affected.

Furthermore, EDBF will not tolerate any statements or actions by any member country generally, or by athletes from any member country at EDBF competitions, which may be taken to support or legitimize the military actions of Russia in Ukraine. Should EDBF become aware of such statements or actions, the member countries or athlete concerned may be sanctioned by EDBF.

The EDBF Council agreed to continue to monitor the situation and make any changes that are deemed appropriate or to align with the IOC, GAISF and IDBF policy.

EDBF President, Claudio Schermi, said "The European Dragon Boat Federation is appalled by the military intervention by Russia in Ukraine and is 100% behind the Ukrainian people in their fight against the invasion of their country. We pray for a ceasefire and a resolution to this dreadful situation. The European dragon boat community is united in its support for Ukraine. Our actions against Russia and Russian clubs are regrettable but necessary at this stage".

Voting for:- Ute Becker-Frenzel (VP); Neil Pickles, Robin Magnusson, Christian Tänzer, Andy Menzies (Members Reps); Andries Boneschansker (Commission Chairholder).

Abstentions:- Anna Socratous, Peter Jarosi (VPs); Niko Cuca (Member Rep); Dusko Spasovski,

Paola Pochesci (Commission Chairholders).

It was agreed that the statement, on an EDBF headed letter, should be sent to all EDBF Members by 14th March 2022.

6.00

Date, Time and Place of the Next Meeting.

Tuesday 22 March 2022
18.00hrs (GMT) / 19.00hrs (CET)
by Zoom Meeting

Minutes written and produced by Leila Ataei. (Cyp)

I confirm these minutes represent a true record of the meeting held.

Signed by:



Dated: 3rd May 2022

Claudio Schermi
President
European Dragon Boat Federation