

MINUTES OF THE 80th EDBF COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, 24th January 2024 at 18.00HRS (UTC) / 19.00HRS (CET)
HELD IN VIDEO CONFERENCE

Present:

EDBF Executive Committee:	Claudio Schermi	CS	EDBF President	ITA
	Valeri Morgun	VM	EDBF Vice President	UKR
	Anna Sokratous	AS	EDBF Vice President	CYP
	Antonio De Lucia	ADL	EDBF Vice President	ITA
	Niko Cuca	NC	EDBF Vice President	SRB
	Pep Junca Tesseras	PJT	EDBF Secretary General	SPA
	Maura Dezi	MD	EDBF Treasurer	ITA
	Andrew Menzies	AM	Full Member's Representative	GBR
EDBF Council Representatives:	Andries Boneschansker	AB	C&TC Com	NLD
	Michaela Scacchetti	MS	M&M Com	ITA
	Dusko Spasovski	DS	SMED Com	SER
	Alexey Morgun	AM	YOUTH Com	UKR
	Paola Pochesci	PP	WOMEN IN SPORT Com	ITA
	Neil Pickles	NP	Nation Representative	GBR
	Ute Becker-Frenzel	UBF	Nation Representative	GER
	Dusko Spasovski	DS	Nation Representative	SRB
	Katerina Kovalenko	KK	Nation Representative	UKR
	Nation Representative	SWE
Non-Voting:	Mike MacKeddie-Haslam	MMH	EDBF President of Honour	GBR
	Alan van Caubergh	AvC	EDBF Honorary President	NLD
	Leila Ataie	LA	Medical&Sports Com.	CYP
	Djordje Pavlovic	DP	Com&Special events	CYP
	Christian Tänzer	CT	M&M Com Vice	GER

1. Welcome address by the EDBF President / Roll call.

- CS welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Nico absent, email was sent with apologies for not attending due to personal matters.
- Dusko Spasovski to represent Serbia in meeting.
- Leila Ataie to represent Medical Commission.

2. Confirmation of the Agenda

- The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 79th Council meeting (circulate 11th Jan. 2024).

- The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Matters arising

4.1 requests of EDBF Extraordinary Congress – update

- The GB rep, on behalf of seven Members referred to the IDBF executive to support the request of an Extraordinary Congress. The IDBF Ex.Com. declined and the response was: “its concerns the EDBF”. The matters referred to the interpretation of the grey areas of the Statute and it was agreed that it needs a clear reason for a vote of “not confidence” and the endorsement of the Ex Com of any subscriber members. The subscribers should have follow the instructions of the EDBF Secretary General. It was noted that one of the request come from Swedish Canoe Federation that is not in EDBF Membership. The request of an Extraordinary Congress was consequently dismissed..

4.2 EDBF variation to IDBF Comp.Reg. and R&R

- The following variation was presented and approved

(<https://edbf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-EDBF-Amendments-to-the-IDBF-RR-Rev-230123.pdf>)

- work is in process * main change was for the use of word amendments to word variations.

5. President Report

- President confirms that at the congress after ENC in Racice a new president for EDBF should be elected.
- The reason is for a smooth and clean transfer, making sure the new president is ready and understands the responsibility after the ENC.
- The President will submit the proposal to the Congress that the date of taken effect of the election will be effective immediately and not in January 2025.
- Some Council Members expressed concern about the workload of the President as EDBD and IDBF leader. The President reassure about his commitment to take the two roles for a sense of responsibility in the perspective of Racice 2024.
- Executive committee approved the proposal of the President to fulfil the responsibilities and for congress to vote for a new President in July.
- The President recommends to vice presidents to help and work together.
-

6. EDBF ENC – Racice 2024 – update

- This matter will be discussed with Point 8

7. Sweden Membership

- After Deep discusion it was agreed that the member for Sweden is the Swedish Dragon Boat Association. The Swedish Canoe federation has to apply for membership; however, this needs to follow the application process and be approved.

8. New EDBF platform proposal

- The new platform from Tommaso Cellini was presented and approved (1 vote against), cost of this platform:
Initial fee (€6000 platform + €2000 assistance on site + hospitality)
- Direct contract with Tommaso and Company
- Alexei involvement to be discussed later.
- Andries and C&TC would be involved with racing program.
- Suggestions were made about testing the platform in Prague/Belgrade Eurocups
- It was decided to open the platform and portal immediately.

9. EURO CUP – revision

- Results have been received except from Lithuania. Valeri will assist to get results from Lithuania and pass to to Anna.
- New Contract and regulations have been approved as presented by Anna Sokratous.

9.1 Bid for EuroCup 2024:

- 8th - 9th June Belgrade, Serbia
- 6th - 8th December, Dubai
- 11th - 12th May Prague, Czech Republic
- 28th September. Long distance Prague, Czech Republic
- 8th - 9th June Manchester, UK
- October no specific date, Cyprus
- Meeting with hosts will be held to clarify contracts and Rules and later confirmation of their participation.
- All information will be sent to all members.

10. C&T Commission – New nominations to replace Robin Magnussen

- It was agreed to nominate James Hyman South Africa/SPAIN

11. Member Representative – job description

- Report presented by Mike Haslam (ATTACHMENT: document 1) approved by the Council. The job description to be presented at next Council

12. AOB (Any Other Business)

12.1: Women in sport project

- (ATTACHMENT: document 2)
- New member of this commission Katerina Kovalenko from Ukraine- communication job
- Request money to help set up the platform women in Dragon Boat (€1000). Approved
- sharing post of social media to promote the women form all federations. Approved and agreed.

12.1 EDBF C&TC proposal

- (ATTACHMENT: document 3)
- Ute as advisor of the C&C External Advisor
- Fanny – Techniques for Events
- Mike Haslam
- James Hyman Video Referee & Logistical
- Building the team of the C&TC approved with 4 assistances.

12.2 Erasmus+ European project (invited Radu Radulescu)

- Speech from Mr. Radulescu ERASMUS
- Project Explained and why it was good for us to apply, And can apply up to 10 people.
- Mobility in sport is great scheme to get funding.
- Job shadowing to help learn from Countries which sport events experience.
- EDBF is great for this as it's grassroots.
- More information can be sent.
- 16,000-30,000 per project

Invitation from anti-Doping for an annual workshop. 3 delegates from EDBF to join March 14th.

- To be updated in the next meeting (cost)

13. Date of next EDBF Ex. Com and date of next EDBF Council

- 5th March 2024 19:00

Signed by:



Claudio Schermi
EDBF President



Pep Juncà Tresserras
EDBF Secretary General

ATTACHMENT document 1

EDBF Members Representative on the Council – the Role – Discussion Paper.

Background. The EDBF Members Representative (MR) was introduced soon after the formation of the EDBF so that those EDBF Members who did not have a directly elected representative on the EDBF Council, were still represented 'collectively' by one person nominated by them, at an EDBF Congress, to represent them at EDBF Council meetings, which at that time, were always 'face to face' meetings.

The MR's Role. The actual role of the Members Rep has not, as far as I am aware, ever been written down and included in the EDBF Bye-Laws but it can be assumed from the title 'Members Rep' that the intended role was to be in regular contact with those EDBF Members who were not represented on the Council, in their own right and find out what their views and opinions were on a range of matters and situations dealt with by the EDBF Council, including discussions on EDBF policies for the Congress.

What is clear however, from the role name, is that the MR should not put forward his or her own view/opinion on EDBF Council matters or those of his or her own EDBF Member, but consensus views/opinions of the non-represented EDBF Members to the Council.

Practical Implementation. Again nothing seems to have been written down about how the MR should carry out his or her role but I would suggest that for items scheduled for discussion at a forthcoming EDBF Council meeting, the MR should contact the relevant EDBF Members with a brief note about each Agenda item and solicit their views and opinions, which the MR can summarise and put forward in any subsequent Council discussion, especially where it relates to policy matters.

For a new or developing situation or unexpected incidents, that may need discussion and action by the EDBF Council, then the MR should be 'in front of the game' by again contacting his or her EDBF Members to alert them of the situation and again solicit views.

The Future. When the MR was introduced the EDBF was in its infancy and did not have the management structure of an EDBF Secretariat and Commissions etc or the IT systems that it has now. So, the question in 2024 is whether or not the MR still has a valid role to play on the EDBF Council and if so, what should that role be, given the wide use of social media systems such as WhatsApp, for example, zoom meetings and emails, through which the EDBF Officers and Commissions can and do regularly communicate with all the EDBF Members and hold their meetings.

It may be that the MRs role could be reversed and that he or she communicates with their represented EDBF Members, after each Council Meeting to inform them of the nub of the discussions held and get their views so that the EDBF Executive can be made aware of the general thinking of the EDBF Members on the decisions being made on their behalf by the EDBF Officers and Commissions.

M-MMH 23 Jan 24 - For discussion by the EDBF Council

EDBF Women Commission Project 2024

Dear Council Members,

Recently I have been considering what has already been done by the Women's Commission in the past years and I recognized that perhaps we were never able to reach all the women paddlers around Europe. All the efforts are made by a single person. Look at how Lucia De Ranieri is involved in Breast Cancer Paddlers issues and Ivana Markovich is engaged in spreading Dragon Boat in Montenegro and Macedonia as well.

I do believe the EDBF women commission, needs much more visibility to have a correct role.

We are in a new era of communication and my idea is to use social media to achieve this goal. It could be Facebook or Instagram or something else. We shall have to fully develop this idea and I truly accept constructive suggestions from you all.

Initially, we can share info about women paddlers making everybody aware of what is going on in other countries or promoting issues from the EDBF Federation.

Then, maybe next, we can use social media also to collect info, suggestions, and eventually problems of interest to the Federation.

I truly believe we need to be much closer to women paddlers than we are now. We need to create a joint community where paddlers feel they belong.

I spoke with the Media and Marketing Commission and Michela Scacchetti is not only eager for a project like this one but also gave me ideas for what we can do.

I feel this is a correct strategy for raising interest in the job we are doing.

Three points are a must to achieve this goal, at least in my vision.

First, I contacted Kateryna Kovalenko from Ukraine and asked her to join the Women's Commission as a permanent member. My decision is based on her great skills in Communication and I identified her as the right

person to carry out this social media project. She works on social media and achieved awards for her job during the last years. Kateryna is eager to be part of the EDBF Women Commission and she believes in this project.

Although I will receive all the support from the Marketing and Media Commission, I do believe there has to be a dedicated person from my commission to run this project.



Second, as far as I understood, I am not an ace in social media, we have to spend a little money on positioning on social to achieve more share. As soon as we have reached a target, we won't need any further money. I believe that a budget of € 1.000 is more than enough. We are going to share this budget with the media and marketing

commission for a dual vision.

Third, I'm expecting the close cooperation of all EDBF Members to have material to post. From one side, I believe Andy Menzies as a Full Member Representative can help share this request with all EDBF Members in order to fulfill the first step. On the other side, I encourage all of you to take specific steps to support the project, such as sharing information with your networks or providing feedback on the proposed social media strategy.

What I am looking forward to is a good teamwork for the benefit of all EDBF.

Paola Pochesci

EUROPEAN DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION – SECRETARY GENERAL

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ATTACHMENT document 3:

Restructuring EDBF Competition and Technical Commission.

In the past year a lot of people and positions within the EDBF changed. Therefore, it is a good moment

to reconsider the structure of the EDBF C&TC.

Current situation

The commission has four members. The four members have to cover all activities of the commission. From organization of European Championships and Eurocup events to training, selection and examination of National Race Officials in preparation on their training to become an IDBF International Race Official, as well the training and coaching of team managers and coaches. The commission coordinates but it appears a huge amount of work.

Therefore, it is time to restructure the commission.

Desired situation

The commission can still exist with just four members, but needs a larger load of advisors. Therefore the commission suggests that:

1. the Race Officials Secretariat (EDBF ROS) will be the responsibility of a designated Member of the Commission,
 - a. but be executed by two special advisors to the commission who has all the knowledge about selecting officials.
2. The responsibility over the Race Programs and the organization of EDBF events shall be in the capable hands of a Member of the Commission, but will be supported by three special advisors.
 - a. One for the overall coverage of an European Championship,
 - b. one for the Eurocup and
 - c. one specialized in the IDBF Race Management System.
3. The responsibility over coaching and training coaches and team managers throughout Europe shall be, as it is now, in the capable hands of a Commission Member but
 - a. he needs support of at least two special advisors with great knowledge on training and coaching in the world of dragon boating.



4. The update on IDBF R&R and IDBF CR and the EDBF Variations is a task for the Chair of the Commission.

a. he needs support of at least two special advisors who are very well known with the rules and regulations around dragon boating and capable to advise on the EDBF Variations on IDBF rules and regulations as well as the EDBF Statutes and Bye Laws.

If the Council agrees to this new structure it is recommended that the advisors will be appointed as soon as possible.

Andries Boneschansker

Chair EDBF C&TC