MINUTES OF EDBF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD IN VIDEO CONFERENCE ON MONDAY, 2nd OCTOBER 2023

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1. **Welcome address by the EDBF President/Roll call**
2. **Confirmation of the Agenda**
3. **Acceptance of the Minutes of the 8th May 2023 Ex. Com. (distributed on the 7th July 2023)**
4. **Matters arising**
5. **President Report**
6. **Vice Presidents - Job description**
7. **Secretary General - job description and Secretariat office**
8. **Treasurer and Finance Committee**
9. **Nation Representative**
10. **Confidential items**
11. **Euro Cup update**
12. **ENC Racice 2024**
13. **Any Other Business (AOB)**

Item 1) Welcome address by the EDBF President/Roll call

The President Claudio Schermi welcomes all attendees and congratulate with the new elected members of the Ex. Com. and Council.

Meeting attendees:

Claudio Schermi	President
Valerii Morgun	Vice President
Anna Sokratous	Vice President
Niko Cuca	Vice President
Antonio de Lucia	Vice President
Josep Junca	Secretary General
Maura Dezi	Treasurer
Andy Menzies	Member- Nations Representatives
Mike Haslam	EDBF Founder and President of Honor (not voting)
Alan Van Caubergh	Honorary President (not voting)

Item 2) Confirmation of the Agenda

The new Secretary General introduced himself to the Executive Committee and formally tabled the Agenda for the meeting, which was accepted by the Exe Com members in attendance.

He introcuded Mr. Fernando Andrade, as the proposed Minutes Secretary.

Item 3) Acceptance of the Minutes of the 8th May 2023 Ex. Com. (distributed on the 7th July 2023)

The minutes of the 8th May 2023 were Accpeted and approved unanimously..

Item 4) Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the 8th May 2023 meeting, not covered in this meeting.

Item 5) PRESIDENT REPORT

The President (Claudio Schermi) welcomed the new Members of the Executive Committee (Nico Cuca, Antonio Lucia, Josep Junca) to the meeting and explained that the Executive Committee is the management group of the EDBF, that followed the guidelines of the Congress as discuss in detail by the Executive, as part of the EDBF the Council and then had the responsible to implement Congress and Council policy decisions. The Executive Committee therefore, had to work as a team, It was not the right place to engage in politics, such matters were for the Congress and Council to debate. The Executive was the operational arm of the EDBF.

In outlining the achievements of the EDBF in these years, the President highlighted the recently held Ravenna Club Champs which had provided an amazing championship to our paddlers! They were all happy, which is what we wanted and was good for the promotion of our sport. We had more then 50.000 viewers who followed the event through web streaming. The championships were also good for the EDBF's finances which meant we now have assets of about 60.000 Euro in the EDBF bank account and credits.

The President felt that as he would soon take up the role of the IDBF President, following his election at the recent IDBF Congress, it was time for all of the Executive Members to take on a portfolio and move the EDBF forward. He felt that this was important in anticipation of the election of the new EDBF President, maybe at the 2024 Congress, after the European Nation Championships in Prague (EDBF Congress Monday 8 July in Racice).

The President formally welcomed the new Secretary General, a key position in the administration of the EDBF and invited him to help in updating the EDBF web site (documents) and to forward such documents to the EDBF Members.

In closing the President proposed that the EDBF Executive and Council should start a book of the resolutions (decisions) passed by both, to clearly record the decisions of EDBF meetings and to allocate resources in a transparent way to different areas of the budget, as recommended by the EDBF Treasurer and the Finance Committee.

Question. Andy Menzies (Members Representative) asked was there any reason why the EDBF could not appoint someone as an acting President for a year (2024) and then a further election in 2025, when the EDBF President was due for re-election.

The President of Honour (Mike Haslam) felt that there is no reason to be in hurry to appoint an acting President or elect a new EDBF President, due the fact that the new IDBF Statutes do not mention that the same person cannot hold the same position in the IDBF and a Continental Federation, at the same time. This was an IDBF provision in the old Statutes and not an EDBF rule. Anyway the President is ready to handover his position. He was proposing to continue untilat least the next EDBF Congress to give adequate time to prepare a succession plan and a smooth handover, which would not compromise his role as the new IDBF President.

The President report was unamimously accepted.

Resolution n.1: The Ex. Com propose to the EDBF Council to consider holding the election of the new EDBF President at the 2024 Congress on Monday 8 July 2024 in Racice. ACTION; President/Sec-Gen.

Item 6) VICE PRESIDENTS - JOB DESCRIPTIONS

4.7 The Vice-Presidents. The Senior Vice-President, as defined in Article 21 of the Statutes (that is, the Vice President who has held such Office the longest) shall be responsible for undertaking the duties of the President or any of the Officers of the Federation, whose duties are detailed in this Bye-Law, in the event that one or other of them is prevented from exercising the office concerned.

In the case that 2 or more VP have held such office for the same length of time, the President shall be responsible for ensuring the chain of command of the Federation by nominee the Senior, 2nd, 3rd, 4th VP and agreed by the Executive Committee.

In the event that more than one of the Officers is unavailable, then one or more oft he other Vice Presidents, as the situation demands, shall assist the Senior Vice President in carrying out the work of the EDBF. Whilst so acting, the Vice Presidents shall enjoy the same rights as the President or Officers of the Federation concerned.

4.7.1 Duties and Responsibilities: The duties and responsibilities outlined in this Bye-Law will be allocated by the President and agreed by the Executive Committee according to the location, interests and experience of the Vice-Presidents as elected at the time. The general duties and responsibilities of the Vice-Presidents will be:

1. Liaising with and supporting EDBF members in developing the Sport.
2. Supporting and advising the Chair-holders of the IDBF Commissions.
3. Liaising with International Sports Federations and Multi Sport Games in conjunction with and on behalf of, the President
4. Dealing with Membership issues; liaising with and visits to, the EDBF Members in conjunction with and on behalf of, the President.
5. Assisting the President in carrying out his or her duties.

4.7.2 In addition to the general duties outlined above each Vice President will have a specific portfolio to carry out in the organization and administration of the EDBF.
On their election the Vice President' will indicate to the EDBF Members Congress the specific portfolio that they wish to undertake, or their portfolio's will be discussed with and agreed with the President before the Congress meets.

The VP portfolios are:-

1. Be responsible for matters of EDBF protocol and ceremonies, that is:- define, develop and implement EDBF protocol procedures at Congresses, European Championships etc and in regard to other Sports Organisations, VIP Guests etc
2. To assist new EDBF Members with the development of the Sport in their Countries or Territories and to establish good relationships with their government sports authorities.
3. Be responsible for recording statistical information on the Sport, maintaining the EDBF historical records and the production of EDBF publications in conjunction with the EDBF

Secretariat.
d. Responsible for Sponsorship matters; developing the EDBF Partners and Patrons
Schemes and for liasing with the EDBF Affiliates and developing the EDBF Affiliates Festivals Scheme.

4.8 The Vice-Presidents shall fulfil any other specific tasks allocated to them by the EDBF Council, the Executive Committee or the President and shall contribute for example, to EDBF publications. They shall report on all such activities.

4.8.1 The Vice-Presidents may also assist the Officers of the Federation in carrying out their duties and under the authority and co-ordination of the President, act as the Commission Chair Holders or Continental Representatives. The Secretary-General shall be provided with copies of all official correspondence originated by the Vice-Presidents.

4.9 Whenever the EDBF does not have an Honorary President, the Senior Vice-President shall assist the President and President of Honour in these duties and in representing the EDBF.

Question: Antonio asked question what is the meaning of the age ? It's taken in consideration the youngest instead of the oldest, or vice versa. The clarification is the oldest has priority. So first the seniority of service and the second, the age of the VP.

Resolution n.2/23: VPs Seniority (1st criteria who held the position the longest; 2nd criteria the age of the VPs)

Valery Morgun	**1st VP (Senior Vice President)**
Anna Sokratous	**2nd VP**
Antonio De Lucia	**3rd VP**
Niko Cuca	**4th VP**

Note: The EDBF Stautes & Bye Laws indicate that the order of VP is relevant only to identify the Senior Vice President and the order in the case of any emergency. In the normal administration the EDBF President

Resolution n.3/23

The President (Claudio Schermi) proposed from the Chair, to call the 1st Vice President as Senior Vice President and to identify the others simply as EDBF Vice President. Agreed by unanimous vote.

Resolution n.4/23

The President propose that a business card with QR code should be done at EDBF cost. Treasurer Maura Dezi, with **M&M,** to follow up for all EDBF Executive Members. Agreed by unanimous vote, ACTION: **Treasurer/Sec-Gen/M&MC**

Resolution 5/23 - VPs Portfolios - agreed by unanimous vote.:

Valery Morgun Senior Vice President

a) To assist new EDBF Members with the development of the Sport in their Countries or Territories and to establish good relationships with their government sports authorities.
BALTIC REGION-ARMENIA- MOLDOVA

a) Assisting the President in carrying out his or her duties.

b) Be responsible for recording statistical information on the Sport, maintaining the EDBF historical records and the production of EDBF publications in conjunction with the EDBF (together with MIKE HASLAM AND MARKETING & MEDIA COMMITTEE)

Anna Sokratous

b) To assist new EDBF Members with the development of the Sport in their Countries or Territories and to establish good relationships with their government sports authorities.
ISRAEL, GREECE, TURKIE, PORTUGAL

c) Be responsible for matters of EDBF protocol and ceremonies, that is:- define, develop and implement EDBF protocol procedures at Congresses, European Championships etc and in regard to other Sports Organisations, VIP Guests etc

d) EURO CUP

Antonio De Lucia

a) To assist new EDBF Members with the development ofthe Sport in their Countries or Territories and to establish good relationships with their government sports authorities.
Malta, San Marino, Austria, Montecarlo, Albania

b) To liase with COMSPEC and the revision of: https://edbf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-EDBF-Amendments-to-the-IDBF-RR-Rev-230123.pdf

Niko Cuca

a) To assist new EDBF Members with the development of the Sport in their Countries or Territories and to establish good relationships with their government sports authorities.

BALCANIC AREA, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova

b) Responsible for Sponsorship matters; developing the EDBF Partners and Patrons

Item 7) Secretary General - Job description and Secretariat office - as per the EDBF Byelaws

Bye law 4.11 The Secretary-General. The Secretary-General shall direct the administrative work ofthe EDBF. It is incumbent upon the Secretary-General to:

4.11.1 Keep the registers, documents and files of the EDBF, including the records of EDBF Dragon Boat Championships, etcetera.

4.11.2 Make the arrangements for the production of EDBF books and other publications, in collaboration with the Marketing and Media Commission.

4.11.3 Make the administrative and technical preparations for the meetings of the Congress; Council and the Executive Committee.

4.11.4 Draft the agenda for meetings of the Congress and prepare documents relating to the items on the agenda for submission to the Council and to despatch them to all concerned.

4.11.S Send Minutes of Congress to Member Organisations and the Council and to circulate Council and Executive Committee Minutes to all concerned.

4.11.6 Co-ordinate the work of the Council and Commissions in collaboration with the President and help to effect the resolutions passed by the Congress and the Council. (Arndt 2).

4.11.7 Circulate any urgent information which cannot be held for publication in an official EDBF bulletin.

4.11.8 Conduct the correspondence of the EDBF and provide the President with copies of all letters relating to policy or principle.

4.11.9 Prepare in consultation with the President the working programme of the Council and forward it to the Members of Council.

a) Secretariat:

4.17 The EDBF Secretariat. The Executive Committee may appoint under Article 44 of the EDBF Statutes, people to assist the Secretary-General and the other Officers of the Federation in carrying out the administrative duties laid down in these Bye-Laws and to effect the decisions of the Congress and the Council on a day to day basis.

4.18 This administrative arm of the EDBF, may consist of voluntary or paid officials as determined and nominated by the Executive Committee and may include elected or appointed officers of the Federation. Those so appointed together with the Secretary-General, shall be known as the EDBF Secretariat.
4.19 Members of the Secretariat who are not elected Officers of the EDBF, may attend the Congress, the Council, the Executive Committee and meetings of the Commissions, in an advisory capacity. Members of the Secretariat may not vote at EDBF meetings unless they hold an elected or appointed position, with voting rights, appropriate to the meeting.

4.20 Secretary to the Executive (SEC). The EDBF Executive Committee may appoint a Secretary (paid or voluntary) to take and keep the Minutes of all Executive and Council meetings and the Congress. The SEC shall assist the Secretary-General in preparing agendas and documentation for EDBF meetings; making the administrative arrangements for such meetings and despatching correspondence and minutes, relative to the meetings.

Resolution n.6/23: Secretariat
The President proposed from the Chair, that EDBF should, as funds permit, support the Sec. Gen, with a paid Secretariat but initially on a voluntary basis but with agreed admin expenses. Agreed unanimously.

Resolution n.7/23: Secretary to the Executive

The **Sec. Gen. under art.4.20 bye laws proposed as members of the EDBF Secretariat, on a voluntary basis Fernando Andrade and James Hyman. Initially to appoint Fernando Andrade as "Secretary to the** Executive". He will work on a voluntary basis but he will have an "Admin Expense" of 50 Euro for preparing each agenda and documentation for **EDBF** meetings, and a further 50 Euro for making the administrative **arrangements for such meetings and despatching correspondence and minutes. Agreed by a unanimous vote. ACTION: Sec-Gen/Treasurer.**

Item 8) Treasurer and Finance Committee - Job Description - as per the IDBF Bye Laws

4.13 The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall prepare in consultation with the Finance Sub-Committee, see Bye-Law 4.14, the budget for bi-annual submission to the Congress. The Treasurer shall be responsible for seeing that the annual expenditure keeps within the limits laid down in the EDBF Budget. It is incumbent upon the Treasurer to:

4.13.1 collect all membership subscriptions and other monies due to the EDBF.

4.13.2 keep the financial records of the EDBF.

4.13.3 prepare the EDBF accounts for audit purposes and obtain the report of the auditors.

4.13.4 present budgets and financial reports to EDBF Executive and Council Meetings.

4.13.5 prepare and present a bi-annual report and auditor's reports to the EDBF Congress.

4.14 The Finance Committee. The EDBF Finance Sub-Committee shall consist of the President; the Secretary-General and the Treasurer. The Finance Committee shall have special responsibility for the financial control of the EDBF, on a day to day basis, including making decisions of a financial nature and for monitoring the EDBF budget, between meetings of the Executive Committee and the EDBF Council.
Questions: No questions.

Resolution n.8/23: Expenses policy and travel policy.

The President proposed that the Treasurer prepares with the Finance Committee a draft "expenses policy with an attached travel policy" to submit to the Ex. Com. first and then to Council for final approval. (Transparency and integrity should be paramount in this document). Agreed by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Treasurer/Finance Committee

Item 9) Nation Representative

The "job description" of the Nation Representative is not clarified in the Statutes. Mike Haslam made a clarification of the origin of this position. Today this position should be better clarified. Vice President Antonio De Lucia informed the Executive that as Italian Federation President he was never contacted by the Nation Representative, so he asked Andy Menzies if he was speaking representing his opinions or if he sought advice from members to represent their view in the Ex. Com and Council. Andy Memzies agreed that the "job descrption" for the position needs clarifications and an update and that he did not normally have the time to speak to members in advance of a meeting and therefore gave his own opinions on matters discussed. The Ex. Com. asked AM to present proposals to the next meeting. **ACTION; AM.**

Item 10) Confidential items

It was noted that a post on Facebook written by Robin Magnussen (Swedish Representative and Council Member) was offensive to both of the EDBF President and IDBF President Elect Claudio Schermi and to the IDBF and EDBF Founder and President of Honour Mike Haslam. In discussion could this post be considered as a breech of art 16 of the Statutes and art.8.1of the Bye Laws-disciplinary measures or as the post referred to EDBF Elections and made false assumptions that could have mislead the EDBF stakeholders and damaged the image and reputation of the EDBF on a public forumn constitute an offence under the EDBF Statutes.
After futher discussion it was agreed by the Executive not look at a formally action under the Statutes but to send an official reprimend letter, prepared by a Lawyer, to the Swedish Federation that the facebook page was not in keeping with the intention of the IDBF Statutes and Bye Laws etc and that any repetitiuon of such behaviour in the future, would result in formal action being taken against the Swedish Federation and or the responsible individual . It removes consequently confidentialities

Resolution n.9/23: Letter to the EDBF Member for Sweden and to Robin Magnussen

The President, from the Chair, proposed to send an official reprimend letter to be prepared by a Lawyer to the Swedish Federation concerning the face book post and advising them to avoid the repetitiuon of similar behaviour in the future . (Advice was sought from the President of Hon & Honorary Pres both were in favour). **Agreed by unanimous vote. ACTION: President/Sec General**

Item 11) Euro Cup update (Anna Sokratous)

The first EDBF Euro cup this year took place In Belgrade 24-25 June 2023 and it was very successful both in participation and organisation. It was in some respects a mini trial for the 2025 ENC.
The special design of EDBF medals were presented for the first time.
EDBF Representatives - President Claudio, VP Anna Sokratous and Valerii Morgun.

2nd part of series took place in Klaipeda Lithuania on 24th September with the participation of 3 countries. Lithuania - Latvia - Ukraine. This is first time that Lithuania had hosted an EDBF Euro Cup and we are very happy for the development of our sport in the area. Valerii was the only representative .
Due to luck of communication with Saulius , the Lithuanian President, I have very little information of the event. Mainly the issue was the language so the help of Valerii Morgun was critical and very productive.

Next will be Limassol Cyprus, on 7-8 October. The Hosting country is preparing for what its looks like being a big event with so far 7 attending countries with 10 teams plus 4 local clubs. President Claudio will represent EDBF together with Mike Haslam and Anna Sokratous

Last EDBF Euro Cup series for 2023 will be in Dubai, UAE 8-10 December. No any information yet from the organisers but having in mind the last 2 events , it is promising to be very successful this year too. EDBF Representatives are, President Claudio and VP Anna Sokratous.
Questions: No questions. Report accepted unanimously.

Item 12) EDBF ENC Racice 2024

The EDBF President informed the meeting that he had been invited to meet The CzDBA President Petr Klima to deal with the contract for the EDBF ENC Racice 2024. The meeting will be between the 15th an the 26th October. Only one night stay.

Resolution n.10/23 ENC Racice Meeting October 203.
The President, from the Chair proposed that, by exception, that the visit to Racice in Ocrtober 2023 should be at EDBF cost. Agreed by unanimous vote. ACTION: Treasurer

POINT 13) Any Other Businness:
13.a) Andy Menzies (AM) said that he had been asked to seek clarifications regarding the suspension of Lithuania and how Lithuania was allowed to be at the Congress without a formal decision to revoke the suspension. He said that he couldn't reveal who was asking this question because the person (or member?) concerned wished this to remain confidential (anonymous). The Exe Com members express surprise regarding this kind of confidentiality and felt that the person (member) concerned member should have asked through a normal way of communication, that is, writing an email to the secretary general.

AM said that in the President's Report for 2018 Congress the suspension of Lithuania was reported and that in the report was written that they had to re-apply to come back into membership. The President explained that this was a wrong statement in 2018 and that it was subsequently clarified that the suspension for the non payment of the membership fees referred only to the right to race at a championships and with voting rights in the federation (note: Lithuania attended the EDBF Congress in 2019 but without voting rights - see minutes). The payment of the Membership fees immediately reactivates the right to race at ta championships and the right to vote at a Congress. This was recently clarified at the IDBF Congress and also explained in details at the 2023 EDBF Congress as well.

13b) The President (Claudio Schermi - CS) informed the meeting that he has received a request from Vitali Smirnov, RAPS President, to allow Russian club crews to race at Euro Cup in Dubai by exception. It was decided to update the discussion a specific meeting within about 20 days, during which time the Ex. Com. recommended to have a meeting between EDBF President and the EDBF Vice President Valery Morgun (VM) to look in depth at the different aspects of this subject before giving a final answer. **ACTION: CS/VM**

Item 14) Date of next meeting

Next meeting on October 23 or 24

Signed .....

EDBF President

Signed .....

EDBF Secretary General

Minutes prepared by Fernando Andrade EDBF Secretariat