



2017 ISA Annual General Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, May 23, 2017

TIME: 3:10pm - 5:45pm

PLACE: Casino, Biarritz, France

MINUTES

1. OPENING BY THE ISA PRESIDENT

- I. The meeting was called to order by the ISA President, Fernando Aguerre, at 3:10pm. Executive Committee members in attendance included Kirsty Coventry, Barbara Kendall, Karin Sierralta, Casper Steinfath, Marcos Bukão and Robert Fasulo. ISA Staff in attendance included Harrison Robbs, Claudia Alvarez, Megan Burns, and Alex Reynolds. Absent was Evan Quarnstom.

2. ROLL CALL

- a. The ISA Executive Director took the roll call. Present were representatives, either in person or by valid proxy, from (36) voting ISA Member Federations: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Guam, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Russia, Senegal, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tahiti, Turkey, USA, U.S. Virgin Islands.
- b. Also present were representatives from (2) non-voting ISA Associate Members Wales and Scotland, (2) non-voting ISA Applying Members, Channel Islands and England, (1) representative from the ISA Recognized Organizations, the European Surfing Federation, (1) and the Pan American Surfing Association (1).
- c. In addition, there was an observer from Italy present.

3. PROXIES

A proxy for a person to attend and or vote had to be submitted in writing, in a document signed by the head of the NF not in attendance, prior to the meeting commencement at 3:00pm

- a. The following proxies for voting ISA Members were submitted and accepted: Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Costa Rica, Fiji, Guam, Mexico, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Puerto Rico, and Tahiti.
- b. The Executive Director announced that there were (36) ISA Members with a right to vote in attendance and that a quorum had therefore been reached according to the ISA Constitution.

4. APOLOGIES

- a. No apologies were received.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The ISA President called for an approval of the minutes from the last AGM on September 22, 2016 in the Azores Islands, Portugal.

- a. No discussion, none opposed. MINUTES APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The ISA President provided a wide-ranging report on the ISA state of affairs focusing on Olympic Relations and the ISA's role, vision and actions in delivering the first-ever surfing competition in the Olympic Games. He provided the updates on:

- a. Venue at Tsurigasaki Beach, the historical forecast data studies as well as the ISA's vision for a unique beach festival.
- b. IOC's quota of 20 men and 20 women and that this would be an individual competition in which surfers are entered by the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) according to the Olympic rules.
- c. Key principles, timeline and ISA responsibilities in defining the Olympic qualifying system including some initial criteria being developed by the Executive Committee.
- d. ISA would define qualifying events together with the IOC, including the World Surfing Games, and that there would most likely be a maximum of 2 athletes per country.
- e. Appointment of Tokyo 2020 Sport Manager for Surfing, Kimifumi Imoto (present).
- f. ISA's goal to look beyond Tokyo 2020 and to secure a place for surfing and possibly SUP in the 2024 and 2028 Olympics while briefing the members on the current relations and landscape for the Olympic bids from Los Angeles and Paris.
- g. Surfing and SUP racing/surfing in the Pan Am Games Lima 2019 and the ANOC World Beach Games San Diego 2019 providing details on the disciplines and quotas in Lima.

He confirmed that the ISA was in regular dialogue with the WSL who was supporting the ISA in the Olympic journey to ensure that the top professional athletes are represented in Tokyo 2020. The ISA was working with WSL to have a calendar window to host the WSG (No CT, No QS).

He recalled the ISA's history and activity in SUP starting in 2012. He recalled the ISA's proposal to included SUP in Tokyo 2020. He updated the members on the current challenge by the International Canoe Federation to the ISA's Governance over SUP. He strongly emphasized the importance for the members to defend and reinforce their national authority over SUP.

7. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The ISA Executive Director provided an overview of the ISA organization including:

- a. Operational structure and organizational chart.
- b. ISA Financial Statements since 2015, including 2015 and 2016 results, the 2017 budget and 2017 forecast.
- c. Short-term priorities including Olympic Surfing Framework & Tokyo 2020 Relations; Delivery of 2017 ISA Events; Secure ISA Event Hosts for 2018; Revenue Stability; ISA Commercial Model; Institutional Issues/Membership.
- d. Mid and long-term priorities including Tokyo 2020 Delivery; IOC Relations; Securing event hosts 2018-2020; ISA Strategic Plan; Revenue growth; Commercial development; Organizational development and growth; Membership empowerment and development.

In response to questions from the members, the President and Executive Director underlined:

- a. The ISA hopes to engage in more developmental activities for coaching and judging but this depends on the ISA's limited resources;
- b. The importance of professionalizing, upgrading the level and reinforcing the integrity of ISA judges;
- c. The new access to funds, influence and visibility available to the members in their countries thanks to Olympic inclusion
- d. The ISA's efforts to expand and enhance its commercial model to create financial stability in the future and in turn be able to provide more services to the NFs
- e. The importance the create an Olympic qualification system that allows equal and universal access, but also ensures the top professional surfers participate.

Intervention by the Sports Director of the International Olympic Committee, Kit McConnell

The ISA President was pleased and honored to welcome Mr. McConnell, the first time ever for such a senior Olympic leader to attend an ISA AGM.

Mr. McConnell underlined:

- a. The very strong relationship between the IOC and the ISA and it's leadership.
- b. The importance of active, healthy and engaged NFs in developing the sport.
- c. The opportunity for the sport goes beyond the 16 days of the Olympic Games and the importance of creating a long-term legacy.
- d. The need to grow the relationship between the Olympic Movement and surfing communities around the world.
- e. The importance of celebrating the passion and unique culture of surfing on the world's greatest sporting stage.
- f. The IOC's full support of the ISA and surfing and the daily effort to work together.
- g. That the IF determines the eligibility and qualification system for the Games and the NOC has the final say on the selection of the athletes for the Games.



- h. The opportunity for NFs to get support and funding from NOCs and governments by engaging them early.
- i. The IOC establishes the general principles for Olympic Qualification and then it's up to the ISA to propose a system back to the IOC, as do all IFs.
- j. The final approval of the QS system by the IOC Executive Board will be in Feb/March 2018.

8. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

- a. Status of National Federations (NFs) Applying Members (recommended by EC for approval as Applying members, total 3 countries)
 - i. Lithuania – Lithuanian Surfing Association
 - ii. Philippines – United Philippines Surfing Association
 - iii. Great Britain – British Union of Recognized Federations (BSURF)
 - 1. The President clarified that the cases of Lithuania and Philippines were existing ISA members but were new organizations requesting to transfer the membership.
 - 2. The Executive Director explained the evolution of de-centralized surfing governance in Great Britain in the past year. BSURF was a new entity formed by the Channel Islands, England, Scotland and Wales, known as home nations, to replace the previous ISA Member, Surfing Great Britain. BSURF would be a full voting member, but only active for the purposes of Olympic qualification since in order to participate in the Olympic Games a country must have a National Olympic Committee (NOC). As the home do not have an NOC, their athletes can only qualify through the British NOC. The same would apply to any other ISA Members without NOCs (e.g. Hawaii and Tahiti).
 - iv. Motion to vote by ISA President:
 - 1. No discussion, none opposed, no abstentions. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
- b. Status of NGB Associate Applying Members (recommended by EC for approval as Associate Applying member, 2 countries)
 - i. England – Surfing England
 - ii. Channel Islands – Channel Islands Surfing Federation
 - iii. Motion to vote by ISA President:
 - 1. Motion to approve: 35 votes in favor
 - 2. Votes against: 1
 - 3. Motion carried by majority.



9. MEMBERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The ISA Membership & Development (M&D) team provided an extensive report on the activities, responsibilities and expectations of their department, including the importance of annual membership reporting, the ISA Scholarship program and anti-doping.

The team also provided an update on the ISA's education and development objectives and plans.

The ISA's efforts to develop and grow adaptive surfing were also highlighted.

The M&D team informed the members of the ISA's recent partnership with the International Lifesaving Federation (ILS) for an international Surf and SUP Instructor Aquatic Rescue and Safety course.

Finally, the M&D team gave a comprehensive overview of the opportunity and process for NFs to benefit from the IOC's Olympic Solidarity programs.

10. RULEBOOK CHANGES

The ISA President reminded the AGM that changes had been made to the Rule Book by the ISA Executive Committee on recommendations from the ISA Technical Committee and that these changes had been circulated to all the Members.

There were no further comments from the Members.

11. CLOSING BY ISA PRESIDENT

There being no further business, the ISA President adjourned the meeting at 5:45pm.

(The entire presentation made during the AGM is available on the link here (<http://www.isasurf.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2017/07/2017-ISA-AGM-Presentation.pdf>.)