

EUROPEAN MASTERS WEIGHTLIFTING COMMITTEE
European Masters Congress – Dolny Kubin, Slovakia, 22nd – 28th May 2005

Congress Minutes

Congress started at 07.08 hours

1. Words of Welcome

The Chairman, Bill Barton, welcomed the delegates from 21 European nations to Congress with a special welcome for Cyprus on their first time at a European Masters Weightlifting Championship.

Congress was then asked to stand for a minute's silence for the recent death of the Hubert HUBER (AUT). BB explained the good work Hubert had done in establishing the European Masters and the championships.

2. Roll Call

Roll call showed 21 nations represented at Congress 2005.

Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine.

3. Previous Minutes from Kolobrzeg, Poland, 2004.

3.1. Matters arising

None

3.2. Acceptance

Proposed GBR, seconded DEN, accepted unanimously.

4. A report from Mr. Imahara, IWF Masters Chairman

A written report from Mr. Imahara was circulated and read out. Mr. Imahara sent his regrets at being unable to attend this championship but sent his best wishes to all athletes and officials and especially Jozef Sedlar, the head of the organizing committee.

5. Financial Report (Kurt Rosenberger)

Treasurer/Secretary Kurt Rosenberger presented his very detailed accounts to Congress, explaining that the accounts had been examined and agreed by two people – Mr. Miloslav Gliz (CZE) and Ms. Marga Jorgensen (DEN).

The Income and Expenditure Account was supported by a *protocol* showing a breakdown of all expenditure and explaining that the account was supported by invoices and receipts.

The balance of the “administration fund” showed E2,133 in the bank plus a further E3,000 in a reserve for doping control. Both slightly down on last year. Total expenditure for the year was E8,036.

The Chairman, Bill Barton, thanked Mr. Rosenberger for his excellent work with the accounts and asked Congress to approve them.

Ireland proposed acceptance, seconded by Poland, and accepted unanimously.

6. Reports from other Committee Officials

Typed reports were submitted by –

The Chairman

The Secretary

The Technical Officer

The reports were circulated to Congress.

The Chairman thanked Rudi Seidel (GER) for his excellent work in updating the European Masters records. He also thanked Tony Flood (GBR) and Melvin Barton (GBR) for their good work on doping control at our championships.

7. Proposals

7.1. To the IWF Masters Congress

7.1.1 At all IWF Masters Congress', the agenda must be mailed to all National Masters Chairmen in advance of Congress. It must not be amended between mailing and Congress.

7.1.2 At IWF World Masters Congress' every effort must be made to provide interpreters or a method of interpreting agenda discussion to ensure that **all** delegates understand the discussion and the decision.

Acceptance was proposed by GER and seconded by GBR. Accepted unanimously.

7.2. To the European Masters Congress

See 15.1.

8 Statements

8.1 Their National WL Federation or the support of the municipality must support bids for European Masters Championships.

8.2 Nations running the championship must pay a Bond of E550.

8.3 Congress 2002 granted the European Masters Committee the power to set the entry fee at an amount between E50 and E60.

8.4 Congress 2004 (Kolobrzeg, Poland) increased the entry fee by E15 for doping control thus increasing the entry fee to between E65 and E75. To stay at this level for a minimum 4 years.

9. Women's report – Gudrun Schmidberger.

The Chairman asked Gudrun not to be too critical of the championship organiser as he had already discussed improvements.

Gudrun confirmed this and said there were many good things at the championship for the women. The weigh in was well conducted with a woman referee present to conduct it. The scales were good and full sized 2.5 kg and 5 kg discs were ready at the start of the competition.

However, it is necessary to have the Opening Ceremony before the competition starts because the women do not want to compete "outside the competition". It can be done, Kefalonia had the opening ceremony on the evening before the start of the championship.

At first the calculation of the SMM Points for women was wrong but this was quickly corrected. The women were most unhappy because there were no anthems at their medal ceremonies.

The Chairman concluded by saying the EMC had worked hard to try to ensure that everything was correct from the start and felt disappointed when specific things were not in place. He said he was optimistic that things will be right at future championships.

10. Dope Testing

- 10.1. Dope testing in Kolobrzeg resulted in 7 positive tests, 5 of them from Poland. The Polish Masters Chairman, Jerzy Zalejko, was complimented because he also won a gold medal and was tested with a clean result.
- 10.2. Mr. Zalejko had also returned the 5 medals from the Polish lifters who tested positive and was thanked for taking such a strong line, and for his cooperation.
- 10.3. Once again Mr. Zalejko was praised for assisting in meeting the costs of doping control in Kolobrzeg. The cost for one test was slightly higher than he originally quoted and he paid the difference.
- 10.4. The Chairman stated that he has contacted a WADA laboratory in England who can carry out the testing, the cost is high, and certain procedures need confirmation.

11. Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame list is updated every year with all the medal winners from the competition. It was updated immediately after the championship in Kolobrzeg. This year in Dolny Kubin two men were initiated into the Hall of Fame, both from Germany.

Joachim MITTMANN

Andreas WAGNER

Congratulations to all athletes in the European Masters Hall of Fame.

12. Reports on future championships.

12.1. 2006 Heinsheim, Germany

The Chairman said that he was pleased to announce that the organizers of next year's championship had cooperated to such an extent that the entry forms were available at this championship. It was the first time he had been able to achieve this since he became Chairman in 1999.

The organizers gave a brief presentation and promised a good championship for 2006 and in agreement with the EMC Contract.

13. Championship Bids for 2007

Congress received and accepted three bids.

1. Mr. Petr Radous (CZE) organiser of the very successful championship in Teplice in 2002.
2. Mr. Lev Nikiforev (RUS).
3. Mr. Kroum Vetchev (BUL) on behalf of the Bulgarian WL Federation.

Each country made a short presentation; the Russian presentation was a short video film of the region where the championship would take place.

The three representatives of the bids were asked to leave Congress during the voting.

The result of the voting was Sofia, Bulgaria 9 votes, Russia 5 votes, and Teplice 4 votes. The 2007 European Masters Championship will be in Sofia, Bulgaria.

14. Refereeing Standards

Chairman Bill Barton stated that he was very pleased with the thoughtful and high standard of the refereeing at this championship and thanked all the officials.

Although fewer officials attended this championship, Kurt Rosenberger had still managed to complete his referee's schedule after 5 days of competition.

Refereeing will continue to be monitored by a jury of three persons but the jury will not take a decision to overrule a decision of the three referees.

A special thank you for Mr. Jan Hinrichsen (SWE), the European Masters Technical Officer, for his diligent jury duties and assessment of the competition officials. Jan also completed a protocol for every session to check the final results.

15. Other Business

15.1. Old Business

- The Chairman said that he had been asked by several National Masters Chairman to include a discussion on the implications of the Vancouver Accord presented to the 2004 IWF Masters Congress in Baden, Vienna.
- He made it quite clear that there must be no intention to disrupt the relationship forged between the IWF and the IWF Masters Committee.
- He also told Congress that in 1999 the EWF informed him that the EMC has no connections with the EWF and he was asked to remove "EWF" from the entry form and all other documentation.
- The main points in question were "control by the IWF" and "the IWF appointment of an IWF official to attend world and continental Masters Championships".
- The consensus of opinion was that the European Masters acknowledges the link between the IWF and the IWF Masters but does not want the same situation for the European Masters; to the point that, if necessary, the European Masters should stand alone.
- The Chairman was asked to take a proposal from the floor, as follows. "In cooperating with the IWF Masters Committee, the European Masters Committee is given the total support of this Congress to act and make decisions on behalf of the Masters of European countries. This Congress will not accept any increase in the European Masters entry fee to enable payments to be made to the IWF or the IWF Masters Committee or to pay for IWF Officials to attend European Masters Championships"

Proposed by Denmark, seconded Germany, and accepted unanimously.

15.2. New Business

Austria raised the question of making a proposal in the future to reduce the number of medals given at the European Masters Championships. The Chairman stated that the IWF had made a similar suggestion that was put to the vote at a past IWF Masters Congress. The vote against the proposal was unanimous.

Congress ended 08.52 hours

Minutes – Bill Barton

Chairman – European Masters Committee

15th June 2004