



# International Rafting Federation

## AGENDA - CONGRESS 2007 28 June, Inje, South Korea

1. Opening – the meeting was opened by the IRF President, Rafael Gallo.
2. Apologies – Jakob Faerch and Steve Thomas (BOD), Switzerland, Montenegro, Georgia.
3. Roll call:
  - Argentina – Sergio Betancourt
  - Australia – Graeme Maifredi
  - Austria – Gerhard Enickl
  - Bosnia & Herzegovina – Aleksandar Pastir
  - Brasil – Massimo
  - Britain – Deb Cook
  - Canada – Eric Boudreau
  - Costa Rica – Rafa Gallo
  - Croatia – Stefan Barbaric
  - Czech – Robert Kazik
  - Denmark – Casper Mortensen
  - Ecuador – Steve Nomchong
  - Germany – Peter Micheler
  - India – Shaukat Sikand (only from point 9 onwards)
  - Indonesia - Amalia Yunita
  - Italy - President, Danilo Barmaz and the Vice-President, Benedetto Del Zoppo
  - Japan – Shige Asano
  - Kazakhstan – Zimin Maxim
  - Korea – Sung-hoon Oh (only from point 9 onwards)
  - Netherlands – Pieter Bekkers
  - New Zealand – Buba Martin
  - Philippines – Chisum Factura
  - Portugal – Sue Liell-Cock (appntd by Joao Martins)
  - Russia – Sergei Torfimenko and Oleg Grigoriev
  - Scotland - Steve Nomchong (appntd by Steve Thomas)
  - Serbia - Boris Purjakov
  - Slovakia – Julia Pavelkova
  - Slovenia - Janko Tacar
  - South Africa – Sue Liell-Cock, Tony Hansen, Bruce Campbell, Hilary Pickford
  - USA – Lisa Rheeder, Mark Joffe
4. 28 members therefore a quorum. 30 members from point 9 onwards.
5. New memberships Argentina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Philippines, Portugal, Serbia and Spain were all accepted.
6. A summary of the reports was given by the relevant persons, and the financial report and the budget were accepted.

7. Election of BOD – there were 11 nominations. The following persons were unopposed to return to their previous positions:
  1. Rafa Gallo - President
  2. Tony Hansen – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
  3. Peter Micheler – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
  4. Mark Joffe - Treasurer
  5. Sue Liell-Cock – Secretary General
  6. Steve Nomchong – Head of GT&E
  7. Robert Kazik – Head of S&C
  8. Jakob Faerch – Head of IRA vote was then held for the last 2 places with the result being:
  9. Shige Asano - Media & Marketing
  10. Sergei Trofimenko - CR&C
  
8. Committees – as there are not enough names yet for nominations for the sub-committees it was decided that anyone interested in being on one of these should put their name forward to Sue and at a later date the Heads of the Committees will finalise who will be on their committees.
  
9. Discussions and resolutions on the proposals submitted by National Federations and BOD.
  - a) Statutes – Mark explained that getting Non Profit Organisation status would save us paying taxes in the USA (where our account is held) on the money we receive from fees. The statutes wording would be changed but none of the meaning. Key words identified for change are: Statutes to Bye-laws, Commercial Rafting to Recreational Rafting and there may be more.  
This was accepted unanimously.
  
  - b) Membership fees and funding – Sue explained why this has been proposed and how it would work. There was good discussion and concern shown from predominantly Euro members, who, being more active, would pay more than the other continents.  
The final vote was 18 for and 9 against – the proposal is carried. This system will be used for the next 2 years where it will be reassessed at the next Congress.
  
  - c) R4 vs R6 – Rafa explained that we needed to get an idea as to what direction our members wanted to move in as far as the future of R4 and R6 competition. Discussions were held on the pros and cons of the various options and concluded with a vote to see what was more popular.  
The result was R4 and R6 in alternate years = 13, R4 and R6 together = 8; R4 WRC only = 6; R6 only = 0.  
This clearly showed that everyone wanted to have both events. A second vote was held for interest just for the first two options and the result was 17 for R4 and R6 in alternate years and 6 for R4 and R6 together.
  
  - d) Olympic Class events on artificial courses – Steve Nomchong explained that if we wanted to get to the Olympics we needed to have a track record of running an event that we wish to be included. And since we have generally agreed the only option will be on artificial courses we should be looking into developing an event there. He also said it needed to be visually exciting for spectators and media to ensure popularity.  
It was accepted and Sue suggested forming a sub-committee to look into the future of this – defining the event with rules and a strategic plan of getting events held around the world on artificial courses.
  
  - e) Including Time Trial for points - Peter Micheler explained his reasoning behind this proposal and great discussion ensued. Some people felt the whole point system

needed relooking at. They were told to make proposals to S&C Com. The vote was yes = 11 and no = 9 with 7 abstaining. So the Time Trial for points will be added back into the Race Rules.

f) Race Rules – (See Appendix 3)

- i. Gerhard Enickl's proposal 1 about Race Format – accepted. "must" will be changed to "should".
- ii. Gerhard's proposal 2 about Slalom – it was pointed out that it says "should be ready" so it does keep it open. It was decided to change 24 hours to 2 hours anyway.
- iii. Gerhard's proposal 3 about ramming – it was pointed out that this has been discussed endlessly nearly every year and every dictionary has been consulted and as it is extremely difficult to define, the present definition was felt to be the best. No change to be made.
- iv. Peter Micheler's Jury decision proposal was declined by a large majority. Most felt with the quality of judges now being so much higher that this was unnecessary.
- v. Peter Micheler's Jury member proposal was declined by 11 to 10. For less developed countries this is a hard rule to stick to. Obviously for A and B level events it is preferable.

10. Closing of Congress – Rafa thanked everyone for coming so far and making the Congress a success. Next Congress will be at the next WRC. (Bosnia & Herzegovina in May 2009!)