



IFSS General Assembly 2016

Hotel Porto Resort, Lilaste, Carnikavas novads, Latvia - June 4-5th, 2016

MINUTES

1. Opening of the meeting.

Saturday June 4, 2016, at 13.13.

The President welcomed the delegates.

Representative of Carnikavas novads, Ms. Daiga Jurēvica introduced the history of the area and warmly welcomed IFSS people into Lilaste, Carnikavas novads.

2. Statement of legality and quorum.

Roll call

Federation / Council Name	at GA	votes at GA	Member type
Helen Lundberg	present	1	IFSS Council
Arild Eidsvold	-	-	IFSS Council
Anne McIntyre	present	1	IFSS Council
Christian Haeberli	present	1	IFSS Council
Continental Directors:			
Africa - Vanda Gilbert	-	-	IFSS Council
Asia - Jay Kim	present	1	IFSS Council
Europe - Lars Svanfeldt	present	1	IFSS Council
North America - Rebecca Knight	present	1	IFSS Council
Oceania - Michael Herbst	-	-	IFSS Council
Athletes Delegate - Petra Wadlund Lindh	present	1	IFSS Council
Executive Director - Christen Rose-Anderssen	present	1	IFSS Council
ANDORRA	proxy	0	Provisional National Member
AUSTRALIA	proxy	2	National Federation
AUSTRIA	proxy	1	National Federation
BELARUS		-	Provisional National Member
BELGIUM	proxy	1	National Federation
CANADA	proxy	5	National Federation

CHILE		-	Provisional National Member
CZECH REP.	attend	2	National Federation
DENMARK		-	National Federation
ESTONIA		-	Provisional National Member
ESDRA	attend	0	Honorary Member
FINLAND	attend	5	National Federation
FRANCE	attend	5	National Federation
GERMANY	attend	5	National Federation
HUNGARY	proxy	1	National Federation
IRELAND	proxy	1	National Federation
ISDRA		-	Honorary Member
ISDVMA	attend	0	Associate Member
ITALY	attend	2	National Federation
KOREA	attend	2	National Federation
LATVIA	attend	1	National Federation
LITHUANIA	attend	1	National Federation
MONGOLIA		-	Provisional National Member
NETHERLANDS	attend	1	National Federation
NEW ZEALAND		-	National Federation
NORWAY	attend	5	National Federation
POLAND	attend	5	National Federation
PRIDE		-	Associate Member
RUSSIA	attend	2	National Federation
SLOVAKIA		-	National Federation
SLOVENIA		-	Provisional National Member
SOUTH AFRICA	proxy	1	National Federation
SPAIN	attend	4	National Federation
SWEDEN	attend	5	National Federation
SWITZERLAND	attend	4	National Federation
TCE	attend	-	Associate Member
GREAT BRITAIN	attend	1	National Federation
UKRAINE	proxy	-	Provisional National Member
USA	attend	5	National Federation
WSA	proxy	0	Associate Member

Total votes: 71

single majority: 36

2/3 majority: 48

3. Approval of the agenda.

The President suggested to add:

- motion from NHF Norges Hundekjører Forbund (Proposal for penalty when dogs snap / bite, or in other way attack other dogs/teams/athletes, IFSS (ESDRA) sprint races) to item 14 as point q.
- NB Committee to item 9 as point e.

Changes in the agenda were approved unanimously.

4. Election, if necessary, of the chairperson and secretary of the meeting in session.

Chairperson: Helen Lundberg (President)

Secretary: Eeva Äijälä

Both were approved by the GA.

5. Election of Steward and Scrutineers.

Matt Hammersely was proposed for Steward.

Johan Hendriks and Bengt Ponten were proposed for Scrutineers.

They were approved by the GA.

6. Election of two inspectors of the minutes.

Alexandra Kathan and Mike Marsch were elected.

7. Approval of the Annual Report of the Council.

Reports was distributed by e-mail before the GA.

The GA approved all the reports.

8. Approval of the Annual Reports of the Offices of the Council.

a. Executive Board

b. Regional Directors

c. Executive Director

All reports were distributed separately by e-mail before the GA.

The GA approved all the reports.

9. Approval of reports from commissions and review of reports from committees.

a. World Championships

b. World Cup Committee

c. Race Regulation Committee

d. Anti-Doping Committee

e. NB Committee

All the available reports were distributed separately by email before the GA.

The GA approved all the reports.

10. Approval of Audit reports for the previous fiscal years since the last approved Audit Report.

The cash reports of the last two years were distributed by email before the GA.

The GA approved cash reports for 2014/2015 and 2015/2016.

Nils Finsrud (one of the auditors) read the Audit reports commenting that the reports were perfect and ask for a round of applause for the job very well done by Christian Haerberli.

The GA approved the Audit reports.

11. Exoneration of the Council upon approval of the Audit Reports.

The GA unanimously exonerated the Council for the period 2014-2016.

12. Application for membership:

a. Change from provisional to full voting member: Russian Sleddog Sport Federation (RSSF)

Alexandra Panyukhina from Russian Sleddof Sport Federation (RSSF) introduced the status of RSSF at the moment and reasons why they are willing to be IFSS full voting member.

RSSF was unanimously approved as full voting member representing Russia.

The number of votes at the GA was revised and became:

Total votes – 73; Single Majority – 37; 2/3rd Majority – 49

b1. Application for new full voting member: Lithuanian Federation of Sleddog Sport (LFSS)

Paulius Stravinskas from Lithuanian Federation of Sleddog Sport (LFSS) introduced the status of LFSS at the moment and reasons why they are willing to be IFSS full voting member.

LFSS was unanimously approved as full voting member representing Lithuania.

The number of votes at the GA was revised and became:

Total votes – 74; Single Majority – 38; 2/3rd Majority – 50

b2. Application for new full voting member: Sleddog Sport Club of Ukraine (SSCU)

SSCU was unanimously approved as provisional member representing Ukraine.

13. Ratifying of Amendments to the By Laws, provided that the motions for said amendments have been presented in due time.

a. General By Law revisions

No motions.

b. #3 Motion 4 from Latvia: Equal rights for all full members – change in IFSS By-Laws regarding voting rights (change of C.7 – 7.1. point and 8.2.)

Girts Eldmanis who initiated this motion explained his reason to propose the motion. This same issue has been discussed many times during last years. Lot of discussion.

Result of the vote:

In favor – 10; Against – 34; Abstained – 17; Didn't vote – 13

The GA did not approve this motion.

c. #4 Motion from Continental Director Europe: Motion – changes in Annex to IFSS By-Law In the Annexes part of IFSS By-Laws Headline: Directors Continental Directors (item 10) page 25

Additional text:

- The Continental Director Europe shall:
 - Appoint a Continental Sport Director to be in charge of the handling of direct Sports activities like European Championships, Europe-Cup and Regulations specific for Europe.
 - The appointed Continental Sport Director may select a Sports Committee maximum of three people including the Director who is also the chairman.

IFSS Continental Director Europe Lars Svanfeldt who initiated this motion explained his reason to propose the motion.

The GA unanimously approved this motion.

d. #20 Motion from NHF Norges Hundekjører Forbund:

Suggested changes in the By-Laws: The By-Laws has not been changed since 2014 and there will be necessary to change the By-Laws point (A1) 1.2 and point (A6) 6.1, and insert a new point E4 Anti-Doping Committee

Suggested changes to the Anti-Doping Rules: In the IFSS Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes and IFSS Anti-Doping Rules for Dogs, there is no definition of the members independence of the Doping Review Panel.

Siri Barfod from NHF explained the reason to propose this motion. After some discussion NHF withdrew point (A6) 6.1 and changed proposed texts concerning point (A1) 1.2. and E4 Anti-Doping Committee. New texts:

- 1.2 The registered office may be transferred to any other location in the world due to a simple decision of the Council. The decision of the Council shall not be considered as an amendment to the By-Laws and shall thus not require a decision of the General Assembly.
- E4 Anti-Doping Committee
 - 4.1 The IFSS Anti-Doping Committee is to follow up the anti-doping work in relation to dogs and humans. The Committee shall keep in contact with WADA.
 - 4.2 The Committee shall consist of free-standing members, i.e. not elected representatives or employees of IFSS, who themselves are not active athlete in the sport.
 - 4.3 The Committee should have 5 members who shall be appointed by the Board of the IFSS for a 2 years period.

- 4.4 The Committee should have accumulated expertise on anti-doping rules and regulations, sample collection procedures, knowledge of the law, sled dog racing and pharmacology. At least one member should be a veterinary.

Proposed new text to Anti-Doping Rules:

- 7.1.2 The IFSS Anti-Doping Committee shall appoint a Doping Review Panel of three persons, consisting of a Chair and two members with experience in Anti-Doping, for each occasion. *The panel shall be selected among independent individuals with no formal position in IFSS.* In case of handling of national cases according to Article 7 of the Code, the Doping Review Panel will be appointed by the National Federation or National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO).

The GA unanimously approved both updated motions (point (A1) 1.2 and E4 Anti-Doping Committee) to the By-Laws.

The GA unanimously approved motion to the Anti-Doping Rules 7.1.2.

14. Ratifying of regulations provided for in the By-Laws, on condition that the motions have been presented in due time.

a. Motions regarding Nordic Breed Dogs:

Motion #2 from Latvia: To host separate World and Continental Championships for Nordic breed dogs.

Motion #9 from US Federation of Sleddog Sports (USFSS): To include and recognize Registered Nordic Breed (RNB) dogs in IFSS events.

Motion #13 from VDSV: Supplement to IFSS Race Rules 3.4

Motion #18 from VDSV: Supplement to FSS Sanctioning Rules for EC awarding of teams reg. NB, new point 1.15.5, old point 1.15.5 will be 1.15.6.

Lot of discussion about RNB. The GA gave advisory to the Council to update World Championships Regulations.

After discussion following motions were withdrawn:

- Motion #9 from USFSS, Proposal 2
- Motion #2 from Latvia
- Motion #18 from VDSV

USFSS changed proposed text of Motion #9, Proposal 1 (IFSS By-Law A.5. ELIGIBILITY (NON-DISCRIMINATION), 5.2.). New text:

5.2. Discriminate against any dog, RNB or team because of breed or non-registration.

The GA unanimously approved updated motion to By-Laws (A.5) 5.2.

Motion #13 from VDSV – to add following text to Race Rule *definitions*:

Registered Nordic Breed (RNB):

Dogs of the acknowledged sleddog-breeds (Siberian Husky, Alaskan Malamute, Samojede, Greenland-Dog) that hold a document/pedigree that was issued by one of the following breeding associations: F.C.I. (Fédération Cynologique Internationale), CKC (Canadian Kennel Club), AKC (American Kennel Club) or KC (British Kennel Club).

The GA unanimously approved this motion.

b. Motion #1 from France: Reduce the length of the line for canicross and bikejoring.

This has already been taken care in Race Rule proposal.

c. Motion #5 from Spain (RFEDI): The maximum age for competition dogs.

After discussion and voting motion was failed.

d. Motion #6 from Spain (RFEDI): Long Distance Race. Procedures.

The Spanish delegation withdrew the motion, ensuring the presidency that had been noted and will try to avoid situations that were alleged in the motion.

e. Motion #7 from Spain (RFEDI): IFSS International Race Judge licences. Training clinic.

The Spanish delegation withdrew the motion to secure the presidency that have taken steps to correct the misunderstanding.

f. Motion #8 from Spain (RFEDI): Review and update of Race Rules Dryland.

Motion concerning canicross and bikejoring has already been taken care in Race Rule proposal.

Motion concerning MD as Dryland class was not handled. The presidency informed that this has to be proved first at national level and in two years it will be reported.

g. Motion #10 from VDSV: Supplement to IFSS Sanction Rules for EC, Duties of the hosting member, new point: 1.5.6.4.

Motion unanimously failed.

h. Motion #11 from VDSV: Supplement to IFSS Sanction Rules for EC, Application, new point 1.2.3, old point 1.2.3 will be 1.2.4.

Withdrawn.

i. Motion #12 from VDSV: Change of IFSS Sanction Rules for EC 1.10.1.

Withdrawn.

j. Motion #14 from VDSV: Supplement to IFSS Sanction Rules for EC, General, new point 1.1.4, old point 1.1.4 will be 1.1.5.

Withdrawn.

k. Motion #15 from VDSV: Change of IFSS Race Rule I, 8.4.

Ullrich Kuhn from VDSV who initiated this motion explained their reason to propose the motion. Main issue is safety of athlete. Lot of discussion.

Result of the vote:

In favor – 15; Against – 59

The GA did not approve this motion.

- l. Motion #17 from VDSV: Change of IFSS Sanctioning Rules for EC, 1.10 Classes on-Snow, regarding reducing the sprint classes.

Withdrawn.

- m. Motion #21 from Canada: Suggestion regarding quick release in skidog classes.

This has already been taken care in Race Rule proposal.

- n. Motion #23 from VP of Sport: Change of Age Definition in the Race Rules.

Withdrawn.

The GA was adjourned Saturday at 17.41.

The GA was called to order again on Sunday at 08.40.

There was no change in the Roll Call.

The President opened the session by thanking Lars Svanfeld, Arild Eidsvold, Nils Finsrud, Olle Rosen and Christian Haerberli their long-term contributions to sleddog sport.

- o. Motion #24 from USFSS: Junior Competitor's Age.

After discussion the GA unanimously agreed that this motion goes back to the Race Rule Committee and it will be remodified according to the discussion in the GA.

- p. Motion #25 from USFSS: Veteran Competitors.

After lot of discussion USFSS withdraw Proposal 2.

Proposal 1 is for veteran classes concerning skidogs was voted.

Result of the vote:

In favor – 42; Against – 22

The GA approved this motion.

- q. Motion from NHF Norges Hundekjører Forbund: Proposal for penalty when dogs snap / bite, or in other way attack other dogs/teams/athletes, IFSS (ESDRA) sprint races.

Withdrawn.

15. Ratifying of motions presented in due time. The Congress may, with a 2/3 majority, decide also to deal with motions presented too late, provided topics require only a simple majority.

- a. Motion #16 from VDSV: IFSS shall declare to these Ethic Rules like VDSV and WSA and put it on the website.

The Council does not support this motion. VDSV gives reasons for this motion.

Result of the vote:

In favor - 15; Against – 49; Abstained – 5

The GA did not approve this motion.

b. Motion #19 from SDSF Swedish Sleddog Federation: Invitations to International Championships.
Withdrawn.

c. Motion #22 from Canada: IFSS World Cup Conditions, Requirements and Definitions.
Withdrawn.

16. Stipulation and approval of the budget.

a. Budget for the upcoming two years

Christian explained budget for the upcoming two years (until next GA). Some changes compared to previous years was made for Anti-Doping part, because costs of tests has increased.

Norway asked some detailed questions concerning Anti-Doping and part Solidarity in budget.

The budget 2014/2015 and 2017/2018 was approved unanimously.

17. Election of the Officers of the Executive Board vacant at the meeting in session.

- President: Helen Lundberg was the only candidate.

In favor – 59; Against – 12; Abstained – 3

Helen Lundberg was elected President for four years.

- Vice President of Development: Russ Gregory was the only candidate.

In favor – 64; Against – 8; Abstained – 1; Spoiled – 1

Russ Gregory was elected Vice President of Development for four years.

18. Election of two Auditors.

The previous auditors were Nils Finsrud and Knut Arne Holthe.

Following a proposal from the floor, Siri Barfod from Norway and Girts Eldmanis from Latvia were elected Auditors for the period 2016/2018.

19. Presentation of applications for WC and or Continental Championships 2018/2019.

Following presentations was shown in the GA:

- Russia (RSSF): WC On-Snow 2019 (Karelia, Petrozavodovsk)
- Italy (FIMSS): EC On-Snow 2018 + WC On-Snow 2019 + WC Dryland 2019 (Alpe Cimbra)
- Sweden (SDSF): EC Dryland 2018 (Nybro)

New Continental Director Europe Robert Schiesser informed that contract concerning EC Dryland 2016 in Great-Britain has signed. Time for EC is 17th – 20th Nov. 2016.

Also classes in EC has been agreed as follows:

DCW/M, DCWJ/DCMJ, DCWV/DCMV, DBW/DBM, DBWJ/DBMJ, DBWV/DBMV, DS1J, DS1-2, DR4, DR6, DR8, Relay (canicross, DS1, DB).

RNB classes will be organized in all the other classes except Canicross.

20. Creation of commissions and election of Commission members.

a. Nominating Commission

The previous Nominating Commission included Robert Schiesser, Massimo Bassan, Girts Eldmanis and Charlie Breknell. Robert Schiesser was elected at a Council position and can not continue in this position.

Following a proposal from the floor, **Mike Marsch (USA), Massimo Bassan (Italy) and Alexandra Kathan (Germany) were elected Nominating Commission members and Massimo Bassan was elected chairman of the Commission.**

b. Legal Commission

The previous Commission members, Lana Paul (New Zealand), Gunnar Johnson (USA) and Evi Marsch (Germany) were candidates for re-election.

The previous commission members were re-elected.

c. Athletes Committee

The chairman of the Committee has been Petra Wadlund Lind (Europe). Other members has been Clint Graham (Oceania), Murielle Overven (North America), Byung Chioi Bang (Asia) and Wolfgang Meyer (Africa). They were the candidates for re-election.

The previous Athletes Committee members were re-elected. It was agreed also that Athletes Committee will be changed to Athletes Commission.

21. Setting of tentative date/place of next General Assembly.

Canada has informed that they are willing to organize next GA.

It was agreed that the Council will make decision concerning next GA.

22. Adjournment of General Assembly.

The President thanks the Council members, the Committees, the Commissions and the delegates for their constructive involvement to the development of the sport.

The General Assembly was closed on Sunday at 12.06.

Lilaste, 5th June 2016

Helen Lundberg
Chairperson

Eeva Äijälä
Secretary

Alexandra Kathan
Inspector

Mike Marsch
Inspector