



INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION

Mid-year Meeting 2011

Final version (1 September 2011)

**Held at the Nationale Hestesportscenter
Vilhelmsborg, Denmark
Thursday July 14, 2011**

This record of the meeting is compiled from notes taken by Frie Martin during the meeting.

Meeting opened : 16:00

International Representatives present :

Isabelle Pierrard	France
Philipp Preugel	Germany
Mark Devitt	Ireland
Jens Martin	Luxembourg / IMGA
Brenda Cross	New Zealand
Brian Kennedy	Northern Ireland
Inger Hilmersen	Norway
Younes Ahlbom	Sweden
Philippe Gargallo	Switzerland
Paul Greiling	USA

IMGA officials present :

Keith Martin	IMGA
Clive Jones	IMGA

Others present :

Rachel Otte	Austria
Katharina Herda	Austria
Ebbe Christensen	Denmark
Nikki Carter	England
Katrin Peters	Germany
Pola Preugel	Germany
Frie Martin	Luxembourg
Denise Bentall	New Zealand
Colin Carson	Northern Ireland
Eivind Kjuus	Norway
Tor Arne Akselsen	Norway

Peter Dale
Lois Hamilton
Liz Englert
Carol Jones
Tara O'Sullivan
Wendy Jones

Referee
Scotland
USA
USA
Wales
Wales

Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone and explained that the meeting would be informal. With so many countries represented it was an opportunity to exchange information and ideas.

Austria

Rachel Otte and Katharina Herda, from Austria, were introduced. They were attending their first World Championship and were present to meet with IMGA officials to discuss Austria's application for membership to IMGA.

GamesPro

A new release of the GamesPro software is available in a beta version. It has more functions than previous releases, and in particular it allows all details of a competition to be uploaded to the web for general access.

The Chairman confirmed that one of the functions of GamesPro had been used to calculate the draw for the 2011 World Team Championship, and explained briefly how the draw was made and the criteria applied.

GamesPro : <http://www.gamespro.org>

Library of pre-calculated draws : <http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/games/draws/index.html>

This library currently covers up to 24 competitors, but more than this will be needed for the forthcoming European Championship in Northern Ireland.

The additional draws will be calculated and made available.

Rules Committee

Jens Martin reported briefly on the current work of the Rules Committee :

- Standardisation and harmonisation of all rules, in particular concerning the three formats (team, pairs, individuals)
- Update of the specifications for equipment

It is hoped that this work will be completed in time for publication of the 2012 Rule Book.

Mounted Games and the FEI

Paul Greiling reported that IMGA's application to the FEI is still under discussion and there is no firm news yet, but progress is being made. It may be necessary for IMGA officials to meet with representatives of FEI.

Further information is expected from FEI before the November meeting.

Clive Jones thanked Paul for all the work he has done over the past 4 years to bring us to this stage of negotiation with FEI.

Points raised for the agenda of the next full meeting

Proposal by Colin Carson that participants should be allowed to have their own people to set up their equipment.

Proposal by Inger Hilmersen to review the requirements for new members.

Pola Preugel enquired about the procedure to be followed if a competition has to be abandoned because of extreme weather conditions. IMGA does not currently have such a procedure.

Inger Hilmersen requested that all member countries should submit information about their organisation and membership in order to build up a better picture of IMGA.

Medical cover

At the time that it was agreed to hold the 2011 World Team Championship in Denmark, IMGA had no detailed guidelines on the level of medical cover which is required.

At the IMGA meeting in November 2010, the subject had been discussed but no firm conclusions reached and no definite decisions made, and the Danish organisers went ahead on the basis of full cover for the days of the competition, but a reduced level during training.

After a particularly serious accident in Norway recently, the officials of IMGA decided to finance the provision of the same level of cover during practice as for the competition.

The detailed guidelines will now be updated to reflect this and issued as quickly as possible, with a view to officially approving them at the November 2011 meeting.

Size of arena / number of lanes

At the time that it was agreed to hold the 2011 World Team Championship in Denmark, IMGA had not yet agreed that the standard size arena should be 8 lanes.

At the inspection by Peter Dale and John Griffiths, several weeks prior to the event, it was clear that the surface of what could be lane 8 was inferior to the others and so it was decided that 7 lanes was the best option.

The arena was, therefore, built on this basis, with flagpoles being planted and the big tent being erected on what might have been lane 8.

The agreement to put as many teams as possible into the A final was, therefore, followed as it has been in previous years.

Brian Kennedy did, however, remark that it would not be too late to reconfigure the European Championship, and he would organise that around an 8 lane arena.

Pre-competition visits

Peter Dale reported that the visit to the Vilhelmsborg site several weeks before the World Championship had been really valuable.

He added that a visit to the site could perhaps have been better done earlier, but that inspection of the equipment should be better left until much closer to the competition.

European Championship 2013

Still no offers have been received to host this competition. Ireland is interested but unwilling to commit until after this year's European Championship.

If there are still no offers by the time of the November meeting, there will probably not be a European Championship in 2013.

Under-12 riders

As the European Championship is run for all age groups, it was suggested that the two games requiring a long reach (Bank Race and HiLo) should be adapted for younger riders.

It was agreed to experiment with this idea at the European Championship this year with the Under-12 age group using lower Bank Race and HiLo stands. As this is already done in France, the current French standard will be used.

(The information was not available during the meeting, but it has now been established that the lower stands used in France have a height of 1m70)

The meeting was closed at 17:05