



## International Mounted Games Association International Development Sub-Committee

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### Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Jens Martin

Unlike all other sub-committees, the International Development sub-committee does not have any specific time constrained deliverables. Instead, it has an ongoing responsibility to widen the spread of Mounted Games across the world and seek out new member nations for IMGA.

Over the past quarter the sub-committee has coordinated the dispatch of tailored multi-lingual recruitment packs to specifically targeted organisations and individuals in 65 countries and territories around the world. Follow up messages will be sent to these contacts shortly with a new wave of recruitment packs due to be sent during the next quarter.

Current status of potential new member countries:

**Iran** has recently officially become the 22nd member country of IMGA and our first on the Asian continent (meaning we are now only missing a presence in South America for a full continental compliment). IMGA was directly approached by Mr. Mehdi Khatibi from the Iranian Tentpegging Association towards the end of last year. They expressed an interest in expanding their activities to also include Mounted Games. This was rapidly followed by the creation of the Iranian Mounted Games Association and an official application for IMGA membership. We conducted the usual checks to ensure that they complied with our membership criteria and in all cases compliance was proven and in most cases superseded. We look forward to welcoming Iranian riders at our competitions in the near future.

**Spain** is to date still not officially a member of IMGA but communications are continuing with the group that so successfully organised a leg of the Peter Dale Challenge competition in Barcelona last year. Currently, we are still awaiting the official go ahead from the Spanish Equestrian Federation to complete the process and hopefully Spain will become a full IMGA member within the next few months.

**Mexico** and **Hungary** have both shown strong interest in IMGA membership in recent times, however both have now fallen away. Efforts continue to reignite interest in those countries.

Finally, there has been an enquiry of interest from the island nation of **St. Vincent and the Grenadines** in the eastern Caribbean. An equestrian centre on the private island of Mustique (google it) already does a form of Mounted Games and has expressed an interest in perhaps formalising this activity in line with IMGA rules and regulations. Given the size of the country and relatively small equestrian population, a full membership of SV&G within the IMGA is fairly unlikely, at least in the short term. However, we will maintain open lines of communication and lend any support that might be requested. Should there ever be a need for a trainer or development team to travel over there, it is not expected that there will be a shortage of applicants.

### Members of the sub-committee :

Jens Martin (Chairman), Alun Whitney (Secretary), Marie Follet, Quentin Vorltzel, Margaret Welsby.