



International Mounted Games Association Sub-Committee Interim Update Reports March 1 2015

A document which described the setting up of sub-committees, their structure, and ways of working, was agreed at the 2014 Annual General Meeting of IMGA.

In that document there is a paragraph which refers to **Interim Updates** :

On the 15th February, 15th May and 15th August of each year, the chairperson of each sub-committee is required to submit an update on the progress of the work of the sub-committee. These updates must be in writing and sent to the IMGA chairman, who in turn will collate and forward them to the IMGA committee no later than the 1st of the following month.

This is the first of the Interim Updates.

There are 9 subcommittees :

- Compliance sub-committee
- FEI Integration and WEG 2018 action group
- Finance and Budgeting sub-committee
- Health, Safety and Risk Management sub-committee
- International Development sub-committee
- Sponsorship and Promotions sub-committee
- Strategic Planning sub-committee
- Technology and Social Media sub-committee
- Training and Qualification sub-committee

and on the following pages there is a report from the chairperson of each of them.



International Mounted Games Association Compliance Sub-Committee

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Keith Martin

Responsibilities

There are two parts to this committee's responsibilities :

- one is about ensuring that IMGA sanctioned competitions are run according to agreed criteria – the first 4 WODS relate to this
- the other is to check that all IMGA member countries comply with the membership criteria – the fifth WOD refers to this

Compliance of competitions with agreed criteria

COM-201415-001 concerns the document which describes all the requirements for running IMGA sanctioned competitions. It requires substantial updating to reflect recent new decisions and there has been much discussion on this. A new draft has been prepared by Iain Hopkins but not yet approved.

Following the failure at the 2014 AGM to reach agreement on a new system to replace “first come first served” for entries to the World Individuals and Pairs Championships, this year there was widespread dissatisfaction and much criticism of this means of processing entries.

The situation became even worse when MGAGB lost the venue for the Individuals and a new showground had to be found. Members of this sub-committee were very active in resolving, or at least containing, these problems.

Consequently, the definition and introduction of a new system based on merit and designed to identify the best riders from each member country, is now being developed. When completed and approved by this sub-committee, it will eventually go to the full membership for approval. If there is agreement, then the new system will be introduced for 2016 and will be covered by the document which is the subject of this WOD.

Effectively this WOD is chasing a constantly moving target, and its scope has extended, so progress has not been as good as expected. Progress is estimated at 30%

COM-201415-002 covers pre-competition inspections and these are currently being arranged for this year. Because of delays with 001, the earlier inspections may have to be done using last year's edition of the requirements. Progress is estimated at 30%

COM-201415-003 is about pre-and post-competition reports and while there is currently very little progress, it is closely linked to both 001 and 002 and will progress along with them. Progress is estimated at only 10%

COM-201415-004 concerns a method to assess competitions through the introduction of some sort of scoring system to assess compliance with the “organisation of an IMGA sanctioned competition” document. Progress is estimated at 0%

Compliance of members with membership criteria

This sort of checking was done for the first time at the end of 2013, and is next due at the end of 2015, but the Strategic Planning sub-committee is currently reviewing the membership criteria and so this sub-committee is awaiting the results of that review before moving on
COM-201415-005 Current progress 0%

Members of the sub-committee :

Keith Martin (Chairman), Nikki Carter (Secretary), Iain Hopkins, Brian Kennedy, Jens Martin, Quentin Voeltzel.



International Mounted Games Association FEI Integration and WEG 2018 Action Group

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015

There is no report for this sub-committee as there has been no significant activity in the first quarter.

A kick-off message has now been sent by the Chairman to all members so there will be a progress report for the next quarter. This will be available June 1st.

Members of the sub-committee :

Paul Greiling (Chairman), Jens Martin (Secretary), Younes Ahlbom, Brent Couch, Florence Henny, Inger Hilmerson, Rachel Lechner.



International Mounted Games Association Finance and Budgeting Sub-Committee

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Pola Schal

The two current tasks in the Finance and Budgeting sub-committee are

- prepare a budget forecast and a recommendation for IMGA affiliation fees for 2016
- there is a discussion if a fundamental change of name of our sport from “Mounted Games” to something with which the general public can more easily identify is necessary - in order to know the background facts of the process a name change would bring, the committee should calculate what that cost would be broken down by area, so that this may be included as part of the 2015 IMGA AGM agenda to revisit the subject

Since both of these topics are more long-term and more related to the preparation of the 2015 AGM we have already exchanged first ideas about the topics and talked about the order in which we think the tasks need to be worked on.

We agreed that we would wait with the work on the name-change tasks until the other concerned committees have talked about it and have given us some input on this and it is a little more specific before we go back to look at it again.

The second task, preparation of the budget for the 2015 AGM and the development of the affiliation fees, is going to get more input as the season goes on and the AGM 2015 will get closer.

We have created an online mind-map in order to discuss committee tasks online and easier to access and oversee for everyone, this has not become very active but this is probably because this committee is not as much a discussion orientated committee unlike others (this is just normal because of the subject we are dealing with).

Everyone in the committee has contributed to the group and the way of mostly email communication seems to work fine for everyone.

The latest task regarding the finance and budget side of IMGA was to submit invoices to all member countries and to check that everyone pays its invoice in time and the correct amount (not yet done by everyone!).

Members of the sub-committee :

Pola Schal (Chair), Jens Martin (Secretary), Nikki Carter, Lois Hamilton, Keith Martin.



International Mounted Games Association Health, Safety and Risk Management Sub-Committee

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Alun Whitney

Executive Summary

The Health, Safety and Risk Management Sub-committee:

To date we have not come up with any firm proposals. Full discussions are underway on HSW issues and Risk management for which areas of improvement have been identified and ideas for resolving these have been put forward for discussion

Work Order Documents

Our initial work order documents defined our tasks to August 2015 as:

- Health, Safety and Welfare Review Formulate
- Risk Management Strategy

It was agreed by the committee that we would first consider the Health and Safety and Welfare Review .

Health and Safety and Welfare Review

It is felt that current HSW document is fairly high level and probably out-of-date and would benefit from an end to end review by the Health, Safety and Risk Management sub-committee. The objective is to have a fully updated and expanded document in place to put to the IMGA International representatives for approval at the next IMGA AGM in November 2015.

Review of Discussions

Mr David Harris has provided the subcommittee with a draft Risk Management Policy Document on 13/12/14 . This document is a full and comprehensive document which is now being digested by subcommittee to make sure that IMGA has the practical resources to comply with all elements of the document. Andrew Gibson and David Harris have also put forward proposed methods recording and evaluating Standing Risks which have as yet not been fully discussed

Practicalities/Lessons Learned

One member of the sub-committee has yet to have any input into discussions.

There has been significant input from IMGA Officers

Festive Holiday Period put halt to what was a good start to discussions but things are now back on track and we are looking to put structure to the way we progress

Members of the sub-committee :

Alun Whitney (Chairman), Annie Martin (Secretary), Peter Dale, Andrew Gibson, David Harris, Megan Marr.



International Mounted Games Association International Development Sub-Committee

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.



International Mounted Games Association Sponsorship and Promotions Sub-Committee

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Sean Bource

The Sponsorship and Promotions sub-committee has been asleep for quite a while and I take the responsibility for this. I will make sure I get it going again very soon. However, ideas have been given.

The presentations of each members of this sub-committee have been made so that everyone knows who they are working with. The first two questions we have tried to answer are: What is the role of this sub-committee? How can we find sponsors?

Another question came up concerning the name change of games in relation with the difficulty to find sponsors. But it was agreed that this question couldn't be answered by our sub-committee.

Annie proposed a strategy in order to get started which seemed to be approved by everyone. It has been decided that each member of the sub-committee would make researches and see if national MGAs have sponsors, and if this is the case, how they found them. We are now waiting for some feed back, and I will make sure, as I said previously, that we get going again.

Members of the sub-committee :

Sean Bource (Chairman), Annie Martin (Secretary), Gunilla Adolfsson, Pola Schal, Nathan Turner.



International Mounted Games Association Strategic Planning Sub-Committee

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Nikki Carter

Executive Summary

The Strategic Planning Sub-committee recommends:

IMGA should have an equality statement:

The International Mounted Games Association is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and aims to ensure that no individual receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religious belief, class or social background, sexual orientation or political belief, except where this may conflict with local/national laws and regulations. This includes all those involved in mounted games in whatever capacity: riders, parents, employees, trainers, officials, other volunteers and spectators.

The Initial membership criteria (for national organisations applying to join IMGA) should be:

- The candidate member organisation must provide a letter requesting membership to executive committee of IMGA
- The candidate member organisation must be able to show that they offer membership within the requirements of IMGA's non-discrimination policy (see the equality statement) to all those who wish to join their organisation.
- The candidate member organisation must have an initial executive consisting of a minimum of three members residing in the country applying for membership
- The candidate member organisation must have 10 active riders
- The candidate member organisation must have a clear and concise understanding of the dynamics of IMGA, its structure, governing rules and regulations, constitution and the rules governing the sport of mounted games
- The candidate member organisation must appoint a country representative to be represented at IMGA
- The candidate member organisation must provide details of all other organisations within their country for which mounted games is the main or a major activity

Work Order Documents

Our initial work order documents defined our tasks to August 2015 as:

- Review the membership criteria for IMGA
- Formulate a long term strategic roadmap for IMGA

It was agreed by the committee that we would consider the membership criteria first.

Membership Criteria

The current membership criteria are:

INITIAL MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

- Must be able to offer equal membership to all riders within the guidelines of the IMGA constitution
- An initial executive consisting of a minimum of three members residing in the country applying for membership
- Must provide a letter requesting membership to executive committee of IMGA
- Must have a clear and concise understanding of the dynamics of IMGA. Its structure, governing rules and regulations, constitution and the rules governing the sport of mounted games
- Must appoint a country representative to be represented at IMGA

LONG TERM CRITERIA (TWO YEARS)

- Must be covered by a democratic constitution similar to organisations within the Equestrian federation or sports organisations in their country
- Must have active riders
- Must develop a plan to develop the sport of mounted games within their country
- Must take steps to become a sanctioned member of that countries Equestrian Association
- Must be able to attend either an SAGM or an AGM before the end of the initial two year period
- Must take steps in team development to be able to send teams to International competitions by the end of the two year period

Review of Discussions

There are no guidelines in the IMGA constitution. It was agreed that IMGA should have an equality statement, separate to the membership criteria. The proposed wording for such a statement (or policy document) is:

The International Mounted Games Association is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and aims to ensure that no individual receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religious belief, class or social background, sexual orientation or political belief, except where this may conflict with local/national laws and regulations. This includes all those involved in mounted games in whatever capacity: riders, parents, employees, trainers, officials, other volunteers and spectators.

The agreed initial membership criteria are:

- The candidate member organisation must be able to show that they offer membership within the requirements of IMGA's non-discrimination policy (see the equality statement) to all those who wish to join their organisation.
- The candidate member organisation must have an initial executive consisting of a minimum of three members residing in the country applying for membership
- The candidate member organisation must provide a letter requesting membership to executive committee of IMGA

- The candidate member organisation must have a clear and concise understanding of the dynamics of IMGA. Its structure, governing rules and regulations, constitution and the rules governing the sport of mounted games –
- The candidate member organisation must appoint a country representative to be represented at IMGA
- The candidate member organisation must provide details of all other organisations within their country for which mounted games is the main or a major activity
- The candidate member organisation must have 10 active riders

Sub committee's members come from a wide range of countries. Each of these countries has a national organisation with a different structure. This means that that each committee member holds a different view about how a national organisation should be structured.

This has led to detailed discussion of other criteria including:

- A new organisation must ensure all riders hold a federal licences and insurance
- A new organisation must be a member of its national equestrian federation
- A new organisation must hold national mounted games championships or at least have a competition structure in place
- A new organisation must have a professional training structure in place.

These criteria have generally been accepted as being more appropriate for long term national organisations.

There has been discussion about whether an organisation's membership should be determined on:

- The length of time they have been members of IMGA , or
- Whether they satisfy the initial membership criteria or long term membership criteria which would lead to a two-tier membership system (Full or Affiliate).

Two-tier membership has been rejected. Discussion continues about what should happen about organisations that fail to satisfy long term membership after the two year initial membership period

There has been more philosophical discussion about what is the primary role of IMGA:

- Is it to grow the number of member organisations, helping them to new organisations to build up the sport in their country from having only a small number of members?
- Is it to develop rules and structures to ensure that mounted games is a recognised and well organised sport within a more restricted number of countries?

Practicalities/Lessons Learned

One member of the sub-committee has yet to have any input into discussions.

There has been significant input from IMGA Officers

Discussion of the philosophy of IMGA is particularly difficult when the sub-committee members speak different languages. The sub-committee would particularly like to thank Sean Bource who has struggled to translate long and complex emails

Members of the sub-committee :

Nikki Carter (Chair), Signe Sehested (Secretary), Sean Bource (Translations), Jacque Cavé, Mark Devitt, Philippe Gargallo, Phil Logue.



International Mounted Games Association Technology and Social Media Sub-Committee

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Keith Martin

Responsibilities

- Management of the IMGA Website.
- Establishing and/or maintaining IMGA's profile across all relevant social media platforms.
- Creation of a proposal to improve and ensure that IMGA makes full use (both in terms of exposure and finances) of Live Streaming of IMGA sanctioned competitions.

There are currently 6 WODS

TSM-201415-001

Live Streaming has become an important part of hosting an IMGA sanctioned competition in recent years with many people around the world logging on to watch the action from our big competitions.

This WOD concerns the possibility of IMGA providing a centralised and coordinated service to cover the requirements of Live Streaming, taking this out of the hands of the competition organisers.

There has been much discussion on the possibilities and the technical feasibility of the idea, but the constant problem is not knowing what budget may be made available. Without the commitment of funds by IMGA this sub-committee cannot prepare recommendations because the range of possibilities is so wide.

Current progress : 15%

TSM-201415-002

There is considerable scope for an IMGA application to run on smart phones. Such an app could cover news updates, results, contact details, even live streaming of events. As a first step however the most useful use for such an app would probably be access to the current Rule Book.

Current progress : 5%

TSM-201415-003

A proposal which has been made for the creation of short but regular video newsletters on IMGA news and activities which could be launched via You Tube / Facebook / IMGA Website, etc.

There are major problems with Newsletters (which several IMGA officials responsible for communication have discovered) : everyone likes the idea of receiving regular newsletters, but very few people are prepared to contribute to one.

Current progress : 5%

TSM-201415-004

The world of online social media is constantly expanding with new platforms regularly becoming popular. Currently IMGA has a fairly extensive and regularly maintained presence on Facebook but little else. There is an IMGA Twitter account but this is rarely used.

It is the responsibility of this sub-committee to establish an IMGA presence on all mainstream social media platforms. Key to this will be maintaining a consistency across all platforms and ensuring that news is disseminated across all platforms.

Current progress : 5%

TSM-201415-005

The official IMGA website (www.mounted-games.org) is the most valuable and comprehensive source of information about the internal workings of IMGA. Here we store all policy documents, procedures, meeting minutes, as well as the results hall of fame, competition calendar, and details about forthcoming competitions.

Maintenance of this resource is an on-going activity. Publishing a website is not a one-off thing. It isn't like publishing a book, it's more like publishing a daily newspaper.

In the sense that no major structural changes have been implemented, progress on this WOD is 0%, but in terms of keeping everything up-to-date and current, it's 100%

TSM-201415-006

It is the job of this sub-committee to investigate the different options and assess these against the relative costs with a view to implementing a robust solution for remote participation in IMGA's annual meetings. The target is to have a solution in place for the 2015 IMGA AGM in Ireland.

Current progress : 5%

Members of the sub-committee :

Keith Martin (Chairman), Sean Bourse (Secretary), Clément Avice, Johannes Franke, Dag Hoffgard, Tom James, Andrew Jordan, Rory Prime, Alun Whitney.



International Mounted Games Association Training and Qualification Sub-Committee

Interim Update Report 01.03.2015 prepared by Peter Dale

As chairman of this sub-committee, I have not been able to start any of the work required due to being fully occupied with the Referee and Assistant Referee courses in New Zealand.

I am, however, this very evening starting the process and so, over the next few months, there should be something concrete to report.

Peter Dale, Chairman, Training and Qualification Sub-committee.
Date Feb 22nd 2015.

Sub-Committee Members :

Peter Dale (Chair), Eivind Kjuus (Secretary), Frie Martin, Fabian Pigeolet, Pierre-Luc Portron, Davy Quinn.