



International Mounted Games Association

23rd Annual General Meeting 2025

Minutes



**Stadl-Paura, Austria
November 15th & 16th 2025**



1. Introduction

Meeting Convened: 9:45 CET

Guidelines for those using remote participation

- Guidelines for those online – voting online, voting once only

Participants in attendance Saturday, November 15 as of 9:57 AM CET:

IMGA Officials:

Chris Wheeler	Chairperson	present
Quentin Voeltzel	Vice Chairperson	online
Jens Martin	Finance/Administration	regrets
Lizzy Franck	Communication	online
Andrea Piazza	Development	online
Mark Crowe	Chief Referee	present

International Representatives (V – Voting member): Saturday

Jemima Gardiner (V)	Australia	online
Rachel Lechner (V)	Austria	present
Robin Donnay (V)	Belgium	present
Michelle Cruikshanks (V)	Canada	online
Elijah Zhangxiaochan (V)	China	online
Jens Holm Nielsen (V)	Denmark	online
Elaine Trevor Jones (V)	England	online
Valentin Vieilledent (V)	France – (for Stéphane Tardif)	present
Mats Hensel (V)	Germany (for Volker Baasch)	present
Suresh	India	absent
Conor O’Leary (V)	Ireland	present
Andrea Piazza (V)	Italy	online
Lizzy Franck (V)	Luxembourg	online
Sue Robertson (V)	New Zealand	online
Allister Hamilton (V)	Northern Ireland	online
Bridget Scott (V)	Norway (for Anne Kjensli Strøm)	online
Ali Fawad Chadhary	Pakistan	absent
Veronica Dodds(V)	Scotland	present
Mark Crowe (V)	South Africa (for Nick Sloane)	online
Quentin Voeltzel (V)	Sweden	online
Marino Kammeran	Switzerland	online
Quentin Gargallo (V)	Switzerland	present
Paul Greiling (V)	USA	present
Nikki Beach (V)	Wales	present

Guests

Jonathan Marion	France	online
Liz Englert	USA	present
Carol Jones	USA	present

Widukind Moorman	Germany	present
Patrick Montgomery	Voting scrutineer	present
Luigi Irollo	Italy	online
Utente		
Cyril Barreau	France	online
Michele Spina	Italy	online

Proxy Votes

Germany – Mats Hansel
 Norway – Bridget Scott
 France – Valentin Vieilledent

Eligible Voting Representatives

In-person: 11
 Online: 10

Schedule

- Outlined by Chairperson Chris -morning break at approximately 11:00 am and lunch from 13:00-14:00 with adjournment expected at 18:00 CET.
- Sunday, November 16 – Convene at 8:30 CET; Adjourn at 12:00

Welcome by the Chairperson – Chris Wheeler

Welcome to all and thanks for attending either online or remotely.
 Thanks to Michelle for taking the minutes.

2. Looking Back at 2025

2.1 Review of IMGA's year – Presented by Chris Wheeler

Chris was fortunate to have attended all five championships; ponies were great for all competitions. The pool ponies were the best that he had seen and in speaking to riders they were thrilled with the ponies. Thanks to the pony lenders for not only the week of the performance but in the lead up to the competition. Pool pony riders took excellent care of their ponies and likewise, the pony lenders were very happy with the riders and their care.

Volunteers - Can't do this without the volunteers, both those who have worked extensively in preparation, onsite, and the surprise volunteers who just jump in and 'do' without being asked. Thank you to the breathalyser and trot-up helpers!

Mark has been amazing with the cameras both in-season and for the pre-season preparation. This has been a significant effort. Robin has been assisting with the cameras and has been of great help - much appreciated.

Newsletters – Lizzy fresh and great.

Quentin V. organised the May championship in La Bonde which was outside of our usual scheduling pattern and worth considering as it is outside of the hot summer weather. This also frees up the calendar in the summer months; Chris is hopeful that scheduling outside of the busy summer months is considered for the future

Organisers did excellent work before, during and after their wonderfully organised competitions. Thank you for your immense efforts!

A number of representatives and guests thank Chris for his excellent approach and hard work in the role of Chairperson for the past six years – Bridget, Nick, Paul. Michelle thanks Chris for bringing a human touch to the role, focusing on individual riders, and making a point of inclusivity and transparency.

2.2 Rules Committee Report

Presented by Jens Martin and Bridget Scott

Including:

- Summary of activities during year-to-date: Eighteen (18) Requests for Change were considered; four (4) new games have been adopted
- Clarification provided re: the consequences of infringements of rules e.g. incidents outside of the arena
- Yellow cards – considering sequential impact beyond first and second issuance
- Joust has been included as a game for pairs and individuals
- Concerns expressed about Windsor Castle as a short arena game have resulted in removal from Short Arena Rules
- Wording adjusted and clarified for some games
- For Bang-a-Balloon, the number of balloons needed to be popped for pairs is now one, down from two
- All rule change request rules will go up on the website so full details will be available there soon
- Bitless bridles – recent request for changes of rules; benefits outlined and widespread use in other disciplines and all phases of eventing – FFE, FEI in endurance, all eventing
 - Concerns had been expressed re: multiple horses in the ring at the same time; rider observation yielded good results with side pull bitless. Halting, turning etc. one concern expressed on one occasion
 - Three loaner ponies unexpectedly showed up bitless for one team – coach discussion; one rider pleased since they already use; other riders somewhat concerned; going forward
 - Profession advice – safe but not suited to young or inexperienced riders as hands must be very still/use seat; conversion attachment should be used for transition
 - Committee recommendation: complete a trial year for Over18 riders to use side pull bitless bridles (U18 with special permission) with review in one year; currently not considering use of bosals and mechanical hackamores – note general acceptance that the latter does not provide adequate lateral control and potential for high level of severity

- Guidance provided in the use of bitless and training ponies with bitless is recommended

Additional Comments

- Thanks expressed to Quentin for the original request to consider bitless bridles for use in IMGA competitions; Quentin appreciates the efforts - extensive and broad - regarding the advisability of adopting bitless bridles for IMGA competitions
- Confirmation that use of side pull with running martingale is not the intention due to the already effective lateral action of the side pull bitless bridle
- Four new races were previewed with general note that the rules and descriptions will be going out as final descriptions on Facebook app.: two submitted by Marino, one from Mark (a submission from Andrew R. several years ago), and one from Warwick. A detailed preview of the procedure for each race was provided – summary below:
 - From Andrew – Mark describes Flag Runner as having a four flag holder at the changeover end and a cone at centre - a mix between Four Flag and Flag Flyers
 - From Marino - Ball and Flag — played in STRUK for a couple of years, this game enhances the requirement for strategy rather than speed
 - From Warwick - submission requires some complexity of strategy and includes a variety of equipment; submitted as a pairs game and considered too demanding for equipment setup to use for individuals
- Question: The number of new races increases the number of training requirements; will there be a limit to introduction of new games or will this be a continuous increase? Opinion expressed that a future of too many games will be difficult to train for all on an equal basis.
 Answer: Note that this point has been raised by Jens as well – the goal is to increase variety rather than relying on only a limited number of games. This concern was noted by the Rules Committee - the refreshed games may provide better opportunities for balance between speed, accuracy, and agility
- Chief Referee Mark raised several points e.g.:
 - For a given year, could select 25 or 30 races for the year and make that the limit
 - New races support attaining the desired race ratio of 1:1:2
 - Recent general comments note that races originally developed as “accuracy” have become speed races as riders’ proficiency increases e.g. Bottle Shuttle
- Observation made that games lists seem to be repeated; the goal is to have riders adaptable and able to shift fluidly through several races, not a limited list
- Suggestion made to track the frequency of play for each race at championships in a given year for transparency and attention to balance

- Chief Referee Mark confirms that repetition of races is generally required in Team competitions and shares that he has developed a spreadsheet and works diligently to track race frequency and maintain race ratios.
 - Widu offers to make that tracking technologically visible for all.
- Opinion expressed that one of the new races requires a ball pick up followed by a vault which, considering younger riders, could be problematic.
 - Several responses from attendees indicates support use of this race since this type of game is currently played by youngsters in their home country organizations
 - Chief Referee Mark confirms that a scoop pickup is not an option in this race since the goal was to increase the number of agility races.

Chairperson Chris thanks the Rules Committee members for their extensive, thorough behind-the-scenes collaboration; Committee member Bridget notes that everyone on the committee demonstrated commitment and teamwork

- Rule Book Sales (after Development report) – Chris reports that only fourteen (14) hard copies remain; New Zealand just purchased ten (10)
 - Profit generated this year – close to £500!!
 - Chairperson Chris shares that this was a new printer and required adjustments in publication timeline due to broken printing equipment however with reasonable production cost of £2.51 each and 224 rulebooks sold at £5 each profit generated was £491!!
- Status of Rule Book for 2026 – new publication planned due to extensive rule changes and four new games.

2.3 Financial Report

Presented by Chris in Summary for Jens Martin

Refer to Annex 2.3 for accounts

Including:

- Current financial report is as of November 2025 – note that while Administration and Finance Officer Jens is absent, the provided slide show gives the overview.
 - Chairperson Chris notes that while specific questions may not be his domain, Jens is happy to field questions and can be readily reached by email
- Agenda Annex 2.3 includes details of financial summaries, including new WISE system account summaries.
 - Each country will have ability to conduct transactions in their currency through this platform
- Current bank balance approximately £50K
- Breakdown of expenditures provided onscreen

- Setting of Affiliation Fee for 2026 – Chairperson Chris notes that the same fee of £315 for country membership will apply for next year, 2026, despite all costs generally going up.

Action Item: The country affiliation fee is £315 for 2026.

2.4 Other reports from IMGA Officials

- Vice Chairperson (Quentin Voeltzel) –
 - It has been an honour to serve this year; difficult to learn all of the organization; sees that communication could be improved
 - It has been an amazing year with many accomplishments
 - Communication to members he feels could be improved; the sensitive situation this year with his emphasis on safety and security of riders, and protecting IMGA resulted in some very difficult conversations but the FFE really worked hard along with Chris and Mark as IMGA officials to ensure success
 - Sees a need to improve the governance of IMGA hence his putting forth his candidacy; wants to protect members of the executive committee based on legal requirements; feels that we are not currently fulfilling the full corporate requirements for the business registration of IMGA in the UK (under advisement from the legal counsel he engaged by vote of the group earlier in 2025)
 - “Thanks, Chris, for having been a mentor.” Chris recognizes the good questions brought up by Quentin as thought-provoking for governance discussions
- Chief Referee (Mark Crowe) –
 - Brief summary (note that competition coverage in detail is included in Chief Referee’s competition reports)
 - Particular thanks to Margaret Welsby and Bridget Scott with the continued question of use of bitless bridles
 - Special note in favour of the May scheduling of one of the competitions in 2025; this was really beneficial and worth us consciously moving to shift at least one competition out of the busy July and August summer months
 - Nine camera system – security camera – allows much quicker replay; much easier to see – actually shows the toolbox pickup and excellent view of handoffs as hand-to-hand (which is sometimes hard to see from Assistant Referee and Referee positions)
 - Mark has clearly labelled the equipment and documented the packing procedure
 - La Bonde should currently have all three systems in readiness; note that for transport the cabling for two or three rings is bulky; only have one set now so the future would benefit from additional sets
 - Mark wishes to thank Chris for the past six years; he provided fantastic guidance and wisdom as Mark emerged in his role as a referee starting

largely with Mark's ability to travel during the immediate post-COVID period

- Q: Could the specifications for the camera equipment be provided to all?
A: Mark will share this information
- Australia just purchased new system equivalent to older IMGAs; the Italian federation purchased two sets for their hosting of 2024 Worlds
- The system purchased is Sapphire – Chief Referee Mark reports that he had to circumnavigate through Italy to make the purchase.

Action Item: Mark will share the camera system specifications with International Representatives

- **Communications Officer (Lizzy Franck) -**

- Has mostly been sharing the content that Widu has been providing; newsletter ready for next week's publication – it is available if anyone wishes to review
- Conor notes Shona's work with videos which highlights what is possible; it is just amazing. Mounted games video is also fantastic
- Website is ready; many items are still missing however the link is available but not ready yet for widespread sharing.
 - In another two weeks the website is expected to be ready for general sharing
- Comment from Robin that he has been fielding many requests for website materials so the news that it is ready is great
- Chief Referee Mark emphasises that the new *Hosting a Sanctioned Competition* document is critical to have on the website
 - As Mark completes referee qualification courses, it's absolutely critical that the trainees have access to website documents
 - The Assistant referee course on Moodle platform needs to be changed and improved; this is generally known. Q: Is this something that can be integrated into the website?
A: Lizzy – wonders if Warwick's current email is available to consult about this possibility? If Mark had some availability to work on this over Christmas, that would be fantastic (including the exam material portion of the online course)
 - Chris thanks Lizzy and Tom Forsythe in the background for the immense amount of work they do with IMGAs Communication

- **Development Officer (Andrea Piazza) –**

- Difficult year to understand with the Corné situation
- Development activity has been coming through Widu, and others - doing a really good job on the socials, facilitating the engagement and involvement of young riders
- Feels that upcoming development in the hands of Widu and company is the most effective way forward
- Sees the focus on young riders and making their participation possible as continuing to be the key emphasis

- **Development – Additional – Chris Wheeler**
 - Chris notes that he has been in much contact with the Associate countries e.g. Pakistan – representative Ali has some trainings organized and these are being implemented by Karen who travelled there.
 - Pakistan’s mounted games group is affiliated with archery
 - Would welcome any trainers travelling there to provide training
 - Finland – Elisa is very close to showcasing their advancements although there was the unfortunate cancellation of their feature show
 - Nigeria – Ali: little actual headway being made with continued very complicated scenario of discussion and invitation yet no implementation
 - Mexico – Jésus: is anticipating invitation of countries to go and demonstrate mounted games at a big show there
 - Czech Republic – Alzbeta: is seriously involved in getting riding school up and running
 - Took a U12 team to a show and is intending to take U12’s to La Bonde next year
 - India – Representative Suresh.
 - Chris extends a special mention to Claire Cole for her immense achievement in developing DIY videos for equipment construction ‘from scratch’ when finances are limited
 - Chris highlights Claire’s effort, energy, and great ideas as being very well-suited for a role as development helper particularly for mounted games promotion in all the Associate countries.
 - One of the videos shared with the group via WhatsApp – Nick provides comments on the video featuring gymkhana from development teams, some even without saddles. Included is a demonstration of games by a four person team
 - Liz notes this great idea and requests sharing by representatives of their own development efforts in their countries as a good way to expand promotional ideas for everyone
 - Chief Referee Mark concurs, noting that the collected development ideas would be helpful as a published IMGA document; Conor suggests collation of a document - Chris suggests this as a Development project
 - Quentin shares that Burkina Faso is continuing games so perhaps is well positioned to connect with Nigeria; likewise Canada and the USA to support Mexico in their endeavours would be great

Action Item: Chris requests that all country reps provide an email response to the USA outlining their promotional efforts.

Break - 11:30 CET - reconvene in 15 min.

2.5 Reports on 2025 Championships

Refer to Annex 2.5

Chairperson Chris reminds participants that all documents have been provided and read by the representatives; not going to read them all.

- World Team Championships – Chief Referee Mark Crowe provides additional brief comment: “Fantastic! Well Done!”
- World Individual Championships – Mark Crowe – Fantastic competition and time of year; really well organized!! Thank you, Quentin!
- World Pairs Championships – Mark Crowe – fantastic event; well-handled; great venue. One additional comment regarding footing – possibly over watered
- European Teams and Individual Championships –
- Nations Team Championships – Margaret Welsby – not online; Chris notes travel distance, effort and logistics of move for finals to be held at local fair. Effort over three full years of preparation and notable sponsorship were additional observations

2.6 IMGA Sub-Committees

- Compliance (Jens Martin) – Chris reports
 - Note deadlines and please get your country’s compliance survey submitted; request made for editable form
- Health and Safety (Conor O’Leary)
 - WBGT – timing on implementation was fortunate as several of this year’s competitions experienced borderline temperature conditions
 - For competition planning, note that scheduling should include time allowance in case proceedings are halted due to extreme weather
 - Drug testing – no one has come to the committee with suggestions/concerns; Do we wait until there is a substantiated need?

Discussion/Comments/Questions – Drug Testing

- Parenting and personal responsibility as issues about introducing regulations in this area
 - medications taken weeks earlier potentially showing up as problematic
 - parents need to take responsibility for protection of young attendees; also provide permission for testing
- Observation raised of alleged use of substances – there is talk going around at competitions so do we wait until there is an accident or take action?

- Chairperson Chris reviews testing options and research he completed as outlined at previous meetings:
 - We need cheap, quick, testing, not personal – note differences from country to country about legalities of testing including requirement for specific permission
 - Reminder that entry requirement currently includes acceptance of breathalyzer testing – drug testing could be added; consider annual competition release for
 - 3, 5, and 10 drugs as possible tests with varying costs – this was raised last year including that widespread testing is not feasible based on the research completed by Chris
- Rumour circulating that breathalyzer is useless given current drug use; do we need to consider the ‘threat’ of drug testing even as a deterrent?

Additional Discussion – Drug Testing

- Possibility of conducting random or limited targeted testing as an immediate step?
- Breathalyzer testing of Refs, Assistant Refs, and trainers confirmed
- Consider risk assessment as an appropriate initial step?
- Impact of drug residuals - what procedure in this case?
- General concerns regarding health and safety of riders – family sport, parents encourage participation based on desire to distance from prevalent societal availability of alcohol, drugs, general bad behaviour, spiking, supporters as potential threats
 - Emphasis needed on education and ongoing raising of awareness
 - Provide supervised structured activities as alternatives during non-competition times
 - Recognition that real world threats exist
 - Gala as source of bad choices – solutions include no gala and/or no alcohol
- Chief Referee Mark – need to include consideration of performance-enhancing drugs for ponies, use of banned pain medications, longevity of drugs in metabolism, etc. We really need to distinguish between recreational use and performance-enhancing for ponies and riders.
 - Conor reviews previous findings re: cost per pony
 - Assertions that IMGA does not place enough emphasis countered by point that many other disciplines don’t take the steps that we do; we’re a small sport working to be very professional
 - Noted that other sectors systematically test winners
 - Administration of tests as difficult from personnel point of view; we are already at capacity
 - Broader scale wastewater testing as means of assessing the general level of problem
 - Pre-competition versus on-site actions – impacts on our ability to test, prevent, consequence
- Suggestion to consider this matter in direction-setting as an organization
- Sanctions reviewed – suggested that if an accident occurs, then full investigation and sanctioning take place
 - Could complete a pilot of e.g. 30 – 40 riders selected for testing

- Testing of winners as a practice – would that be a step?
- Chris confirms that he has not to date been requested to administer breathalyzer 'on suspicion'
- Generally accepted that we are seeking deterrent effect
 - Recognition that for both ponies and riders, all-inclusive testing is not possible
 - Costs are impactful, affecting entry fees and accessibility for those wishing to enter the sport
 - A number of countries' existing drug-testing programs/inspections at equestrian events show that they are limited but seem to be an effective deterrent
 - Reminder that we haven't had incidents upon which to act but we recognize that this issue is large and systemic across societies
 - Chief Referee Mark – we could institute our own random testing but also note and remind riders in the countries where federal inspections occur, of the local ramifications
 - Incident protocol could be adjusted to include that drug testing takes place

Chairperson Chris summarizes that this matter is being referred back to the Health and Safety Committee:

Motion: IMGA to complete random testing for recreational drugs at competitions in 2026.

Voting Representatives: 20

Voting Results:

Yes – 16 No – 2 Abstain – 2

The motion is accepted.

Action Items:

1. Set up a protocol/procedure and advertise that x number of ponies at competitions will be tested on a daily basis for drugs
2. Deterrence is our main goal – specific drugs will not be named
3. In regard to humans, drugs under prescription would require proof of prescription from physician.
4. Conor to go ahead with preparation of procedure

Lunch Break – 13:00 Reconvene – 14:00

- Technology Committee (Jens Martin) – Chris reports
 - Suggestion made to follow up with the use of drones for competition coverage

- **Training and Qualifications (Mark Crowe) –**
 - 2026 Rule Changes - Follow-up – Marks expects to conduct something like the course held last January for Referees and country Referee training liaisons: to take place in January 2026.
 - Assistant Referee Course –
 - Being accessed - Moodle is showing its weaknesses
 - Account managing is problematic; Mark tries to update results monthly and certainly has had to do so some nights before competitions (this is not his preference)
 - Assistant Referees - 1086 from 21 countries
 - Course conducted early November – Michelle
 - Referees -

Referee report - Notes provided by Chief Referee Mark Crowe
Most of my reports are in the competition reports coming up later.

- This year we trialled the use of bitless bridles. This is being used to inform the rules committee and its decision on a rule change request that the rules committee is considering regarding the use of bitless bridles – Bridget will comment on this in the rules committee report later.
- I also welcome the move in 2025 of World Individuals in May. It is great to have one of the competitions outside the busy summer period and I wonder going forward could we try to have one of our events each year in either May / Late June or September.
- We also purchased a new referee video camera system (with 9 cameras) – it is a Safire box system.

IMGA Training and Qualification Committee - report

- February 20, 2025, ran a referee update on rules and IMGA competition procedures for Liaison referees with intention that they would brief their national referees.
- I ran an assistant referee course for MGA Ireland April 2025.
- Michelle Cruikshanks ran an assistant referee course on 9 November 2025.
- On-line training of assistant referees has continued steadily through the year.
- Warwick Slade ran a referees' course in Perth Australia in February 2025.
- This year I ran 3 full referee courses, one for Germany and one for candidates from Ireland and South Africa both in March, then yesterday I ran a course here for Austria.

Current Assistant referees:

- 1086 assistant referees – 21 countries

Provisional 1* Full referees

13

- **Current full referees:**
162 Full referees from 19 countries
86 - 1*
41 - 2*
22 - 3*
13 - 4*

Chairperson Chris thanks Mark for his ongoing work with Training and Qualification of Assistant Referees and Referees; participants share their gratitude. Note – continue to contact Mark for training. Noted that a website link to the training materials would be useful – generally, with the new website, much needed material will be accessible.

2.7 Other Committees

- Sponsorship and Promotions Sub-Committee (Quentin Voeltzel)
 - Two-part strategy envisioned for this committee
 1. Follow up Lizzy’s work with Instagram, mounted games video, and note that their strategy and concept have shown that social network possibilities are interesting
 2. Try to develop targeted sponsorship - looking for sponsorship where IMGA is currently functioning, expanding to seek sponsorship where we are trying to develop
 - Seeking budget money for two-part approach – to support already established countries and the second to be provided to where we are ready to support developing countries
 - Confirmed that companies/sponsors have not yet been approached; emphasis over this time was on learning the system and reflecting on how best to approach the task.
 - Interest express in grant writing and sharing that kind of experience from other countries who have knowledge, experience and success e.g. shared of Ireland’s grant-writing expertise and positive results

Action Item: Quentin’s committee to continue to develop the strategy and take action with sponsorship and promotions.

- Disciplinary Sub-Committee (Quentin Voeltzel)
 - Noted that infractions are easy to identify and consequences easy to implement in the arena, outside of the arena there is less potential impact
 - He explored his personal experience as a baseline
 - Notes that decisions need to be based on the law which varies country to country

- Shares that it is important to move forward on this and also to respect each member country in their decisions related to disciplinary matters
- White flag banning is something that he seeks to address through his proposal to address and better define the factors at play regarding this topic
 - Chris reminds attendees that Item 4.10 includes a proposal to ban white flag entries; he notes that disciplinary white flag riders were two or three in number for 2025.
 - Added reminder provided that a white flag rider may have been banned in their home country for a wide range of reasons, distinctions among which are important if considering denying competition entry
- Competition Oversight sub-committee (Vice Chair, Quentin Voeltzel)
 - Goal of the committee is to clarify and ensure that IMGA organizers and IMGA officials are mutually well-informed about event preparations ahead of competitions
 - Envisioned as establishing a continuous communication flow over the time between the original bid acceptance and the implementation of the competition itself
 - Seeks to anticipate areas of concern or needed adjustment and address these well in advance to avoid last minute changes and issues
- Pony Welfare Sub-Committee (Stéphane Tardif) – presented by Valentin
 - Valentin relates that he is speaking on behalf of Stéphane who supports and seeks to see this committee established although he is not himself available to chair the committee
 - Clarification sought regarding pony/rider height and weight ratios – Who is in charge of this? Chief Referee Mark confirms that the competition Referee holds this responsibility.
 - Mark reminds participants that the pony/rider height is a guideline rather than a rule – the rider's raised arm should be no greater than 10cm above the wither height of the pony
 - Chairperson Chris confirms that he carries a kit including weigh scale and measuring stick for use at competitions
 - Mark share that every step is taken to ensure that this matter is decided in the tack check phase of a competition – no last-minute impactful decisions being made

Action Item – Seek a chairperson to head up this important committee going forward.

3. Looking Forward to 2026 and Beyond –

3.1 Resolution of situation regarding the Vice Chairmanship

Refer to Annex 3.1

Chris introduces the item and refers participants to Annex 3.1 and indicates that there has been IMGA precedent for resignation prior to applying for another position as an Officer. Quentin was provided opportunity to elaborate on his position regarding this Agenda item.

- Quentin V. provides his understanding of Vice-chairperson role as “support” of the Chairperson, providing his view that this is perhaps limiting – there is a need for a Vice-Chair in case the Chairperson is not available. As an example, he provides that if elected today there would be a gap – no one filling the role of Vice.

Discussion/Questions/Concerns

- Extensive discussion/debate of precedent versus procedure, including what qualifies as precedent versus a past practice, all of this in relation to procedure 6
- Procedure 6 - Intent and applicability discussed and debated
- Reference to previous case of Alun Whitney as having stepped down prior to seeking election for a different Officer role, in that case, Chief Referee.
- Additional history shared as having relevance to the current situation – opinions expressed for and against in this regard
- Chairperson Chris notes that differences of opinion regarding this matter could lead to lengthy discussion; if there are enough to vote, he suggests that we proceed with the vote and ensure that this discussion need not disproportionately use meeting time
 - Chris further notes that whichever way this matter is decided, Finance and Administration Officer Jens has affirmed that a procedure will be crafted to formalize actions to be taken in this type of scenario

Additional Discussion – protocol for voting on Item 3.1

- Suggested that a vote to set up a procedure is necessary in advance of voting on the item; that the second portion of the motion is that this procedure be adopted for use in the current meeting
- Assertion is made that this item, which impacts the constitution and by-laws, requires a special meeting having proscribed timelines for sharing, responding, then voting
 - The relevant constitutional reference is noted as being included in the agenda ahead of the group of items 4.0 onwards – this is read aloud to participants
- Open discussion and debate continues regarding order of voting and which proposal may be considered valid and used at this time
 - Possible actions considered:

- Vote for 3.1 and 3.2 at the same time with results not revealed to ensure zero impact of one on the other
- Vote first for 3.1, then 3.2
- General agreement that this is definitely a topic for future discussion; with assertions of personal agendas impacting procedure, manipulation of procedures, etc. Chairperson Chris summarizes that we should move on, passing to item 3.2. Consideration of Item 3.1 and its handling is tabled to a future meeting of the International Representatives.

Action Item – Table Item 3.1 to a future meeting of the IMGA Officers and/or IMGA International Representatives.

Note – confirmed Sunday, November 16 at 11:15 CET that Item 3.1 – the question of stepping aside for seeking new position, can be resolved online in advance of or at the February meeting.

3.2 Election of IMGA Officials for the next two year period

- Chief Referee

Candidate: Mark Crowe (supported by Michelle Cruikshanks - CAN) - **Acclaimed**

Candidate's Comments (summarised)

- My start in Mounted Games was in 2009 through my kids and I very quickly became deeply involved and was encouraged to undertake my reffing qualifications. I proceeded with the support and mentorship of each of Davey and Alun who were both excellent referees. Through the encouragement of others, I have enjoyed travelling to referee and my number one priority is "fairness for the riders." This is supported by my daughter who has expressed that I am more severe in my reffing when she is riding. I am working hard to get more referees involved, not only to qualify refs - e.g. Austria's provisional referees, five of which qualified yesterday – but to give referees the experience to move up through the levels.
 - Bridget thanks Mark for his excellent work as Chief Referee and as a member of the Rules Committee

- Officer for Development

Candidate: Widukind Moorman (supported by Elaine Trevor Jones - ENG) – **Acclaimed**

Candidate's Comments (summarised)

- I have played games for a long time and over the years have been involved in training, reffing, and organizing. Over the last three to four years, Germany has

focused on building the support for the sport - every small town has more investment in their little local clubs than in those (competing internationally) in this sport. (Mounted Games is) fast, spectacular, easy to promote because it is very audience appealing; we have some limiting factors due to our small size. I am hopeful of building a shared view of growing mounted games worldwide.

- **Chairperson**

Candidates: Conor O’Leary, Quentin Voeltzel

Candidates’ Comments (summarised)

1. Quentin Voeltzel (supported by Paul Greiling - USA)

My candidacy includes thirty years of experience starting as a young person. The sport shaped his life, character, and direction throughout his years of involvement. I thrive on the team environment both on the field and in the role of organizer with friends and teammates. He and his mother developed the participation of Burkina Faso as country competitors participating internationally. I have cleared myself of any involvements with the La Bonde organizing committee.

My position includes making a change in the structure of the AGM aiming to promote additional time on development of the sport in our meeting.

Committee development as enhanced, and formation of an executive committee with monthly meeting and the goal of improved communication of the Officers. International representatives not exactly being removed although voting on items would be done online rather than using meeting time.

2. Conor O’Leary (supported by Veronica Dodds - SCO)

I have been involved since 2011 as a family which has shaped, nurtured, and fostered my family’s development; involved in the national dairy governing body with similarities of structure with focusing on long term development, governance and legal strategies. The importance of each nation’s own organization is paramount and requires working together.

I am the vice-president of the horse project out of Brussels, which has me structured to address the larger issues involving travel of ponies. I value the work as a team with the committed people in the room. Development is a key goal to promote and support the growth and depth of existing countries to ensure youth moving forward, and new joiners. Strategic approaches are needed to better advance our sport.

Voting Representatives

Note – Proxy Voting

- South Africa – Mark Crowe
- Sweden – Quentin Voeltzel sent his vote through the chat
- Norway – Bridget Scott confirmed (abstained for the first vote)

Voting Results:

Past Chairperson Chris thanks both candidates for their willingness to stand for the role of Chairperson and shares the result of the election, extending congratulations to the new IMGA Chairperson, **Conor O’Leary (IRE)**.

Break 16:05 – 16:15 (CET)

3.3 Selection of referees for 2026 IMGA sanctioned competitions

Refer to Annex for 3.3

(see email provided by the Chief Referee for the list of candidates – provide selections by return email for tabulation and publication ahead of the conclusion of the AGM)

Chief Referee Mark reaffirms that in the event that his daughter is a member of the Irish team, he will be appointing a chief Referee for that age group and will not be involved in the refereeing of that age group; likewise, he provides confirmation given that no referee involved in a competition will be trainer or coach to a team involved in the competition.

Note – Past Chair Chris has agreed to continue as the Secretary for the remainder of this meeting.

3.4 IMGA sanctioned championships for 2026 - UPDATES

- **World Team Championships, Lamotte-Beuvron, France – Valentin Vieilledent**
 - August 10 – 16; all will take place in the main arena.
 - 90% certain that the European Horseball Championships occur at the same time so this will be a great competition
 - Working to ensure enlarged camping area; look for more information beginning on Facebook early in the new year
 - WhatsApp group to be formed with the responsible person for each country for direct and timely communication

Discussion/Questions

- Question - Will the WTC be a closed competition separate from the European competition? Answer - Given that this is a shared space, there are safeguards and protocols in place to ensure maximum safety and security. There is a separate camping area.
 - The Royal Welsh show is an example of a multi-sport event where we intermingle. Heightened security is evident.
 - Security and status of background checking is important.
 - Discussion regarding variations in background checking from country to country and of the ultimate responsibility of involved parties to be mindful

- **World Pairs Championships, Corn , France – Valentin Vieilledent**
 - July 26 – August 1, 2026
 - Result of feedback survey from post-competition World Pairs for 2025 – additional attention to be given to ring watering and providing additional shade spaces for ponies, all of the items from the survey
- **World Individual Championships, Lumuhlen, Germany – Widu Moormann**
 - July 27 – August 2, 2026
 - 2016 was their last IMGA competition; they also had a survey and have been working at implementing the suggestions for change
 - Main vision is to bring Mounted Games to a wider audience, seeking 20,000 outsiders
 - Proper livesport production is their goal with YouTube and ClipmyHorse versus stationary cameras
 - Much use of social media; 1.2 million Mounted Games Studio viewers last year so looking to expand this for next year
 - Aiming for TV coverage, trade media etc.
 - Luhmuhlen is in north Germany; Hamburg is the nearest airport
 - Hamburg has mild temperatures not generally above 30C so more opportunity for extended length of competition day
 - Nearby hotels and hospitals; also campervan arrangements on site are possible
 - Want to make it a big event to show the world what Mounted Games is all about; attract outsiders and seek new participants
 - Much in the way of activities surrounding the competition e.g. family activities, vendors, etc.
 - Timeline –
 - Starting Monday, 27 July 2026
 - Wed – Fri = sessions, running in three rings; Semis and Finals in the main ring in front of the crowd – other rings are shut down then
 - Camping separated from the main area.
 - Stables moved to right in the middle of the action as a significant improvement
 - Main arena – Arena A is 100m x 70m; B and C @ 126m x 86m
 - Entries will run through MGScoreboard i.e. can enter and book extras e.g. hay and other extras; ability to pick camping in advance. Stabling and marked corralling organised likewise – select on the App
 - Early entry for reduced price in December 2025; currently calculating costs; working for sponsors which would reduce entry fees
 - Mounted Games Studio has current information and promotion; <https://www.world-individuals.com> will also have the information
 - Question – Will mens' showers be shared again? Answer- enquiry has been made to answer this question.
 - Overall goal is to increase German rider interest in this sport; they have generally lower costs and are able to hold competitions at a reasonable price

- Working with local hotels and facilities as partners to include these in the information; reminder provided of the wonderful pool recreational facility @ €1

- **European Team & Individual Championships, La Bonde, France – presented by Chris Wheeler for Quentin Voeltzel (departed briefly)**
 - August 3 arrival: competition starts Aug. 4 through Aug. 9, 2026
 - Note – significant date issue raised regarding finish of Individuals in Germany August 2 and the start of Europeans
 - Question: Is Quentin able to shift start of Europeans to Thursday (August 6)?
 - Discussion continued regarding issue of date setting in generals with references to e.g. Germany, if awarded competition in 2028, will be pushing for early July dates
 - ETIC competition website will be running soon
 - €500 euro for Ind; €3000 Euro for teams; starting with teams in order to give time for Individuals.
 - Start on the 4th, finish on the 9th with Gala on the 9th
 - Stabling in secure area with provision of six stables per team (one extra)
 - Extra focus on drawing U12's; currently building a budget to enhance opportunity for this age group to attend
 - Question - Spacing between competitions as limiting ability for participants to attend multiple competitions e.g. pony transport, etc.
 - Additional discussion about calendar spacing including that organizers are taking financial risks based on the current calendar; that there is an unfortunate situation this year due to shift in hosting
 - General consensus that this tendency to pushing most competitions into small calendar space can be detrimental to attendance (viability – financial and participation rate)
 - Discussion regarding travel times between Luhmuhlen and La Bonde; this year is an unfortunate exception for which advance planning and focus on avoiding calendar squeeze in the future should see improvement
 - e.g. Irish riders would tend to go to 3 out 4 competitions, skipping Europeans
 - Length of shipping/travel as impacting ponies equivalent to competing in terms of energy/stress
 - Widu suggests that this year, acknowledge that this situation is not the best, however, focus on completing the competitions and make plans for how to proceed with dates in the future
 - Consideration and discussion regarding switching order of European Teams & Individuals with Individuals first, followed by Teams – Quentin had planned for Teams first, seeing those as the feature event
 - Germany would encourage consideration of European Individuals first

- Question: Maintain dates but switch venues for Europeans and WTC? World Teams goes to La Bonde; with Europeans to Lamotte? (World Teams as smaller than Europeans, requiring fewer ponies)
 - Answer: The French Federation rejected this proposal because the competition had already been booked; decision of the high committee of FFE
- Overall discussion centres on setting a suitable procedure for determining dates in the future; also revisiting the idea of moving big championships away from the hot summer months
- General agreement with the idea that the organisers for the big competitions for 2027 need to get together now to work on date coordination to avoid the issues currently being experienced for 2026.
- Point made that in general, venue booking three years in advance is not possible for some of these commercial venue; viewpoint countered by others who have booked three years in advance and provided dates at the time of their bid
- Development Officer Widu notes that looking ahead at direction-setting for the organisation as a whole, consider that our vision, goals and direction would provide the structural answers for booking competitions in the future
- ***Note – Information raised re: Item 3.5 during discussion of 3.4**
 - Meeting Secretary Chris receives email and shares dates selected by Quentin for **2027 World Team Championship – La Bonde, France:**
 - July 26 – August 1
 - Patrick Montgomery (Austria) – confirms the dates for **2027 World Pairs – Stadl Paura, Austria:**
 - July 26 – August 1

Discussion/Questions/Comments – Item 3.5

- Suggestion made that organisers for 2027 need to get together, present today, give their dates; get the date conflicts out in the open - possibility that we can talk about this now and see if one of those competitions would best be skipped for 2027.
 - For the future, the conflicts need to be seen clearly; bids need to include the proposed dates at the time of voting on the bids - conflicts are clearly seen and can be avoided.
 - Acknowledged that not everybody is booking their dates three years in advance; if someone is changing the dates that they originally provided, do we remove them from organizing the event?
 - Noted that booking is complicated since some venues won't provide firm commitment three years out due to their booking of other horse shows, etc.
- Opinion reiterated that for 2027, the four (European) competition organizers need to coordinate dates; if not possible, decide for one of the four to step out in favour of booking an organisation more logistically able to fill that spot - original organizer waits for the following year.
- Significantly, we currently have two organizers who have committed and given the same dates: what now?
- Wales gives dates of Aug. 2 – 8 for World Individual Championships

- Defining goals as an organization is emphasised as an important immediate step - once goals and directions decided, easier to develop a rule about how we handle this, avoiding the current situation

***See also Item 3.5 below – discussion continues re: items raised during consideration of Item 3.4**

- **Nations Team Championship, Ocala, USA – Paul Greiling**
 - October 12 – 16, 2026; Ocala, Florida, USA @HITS (Horses in The Sun) Post Time Farm
 - Featured at the Festival of The Horse
 - Pony pool – will be stabled on the grounds
 - Other activities will be going on at the same time
 - 600' x 300' all-weather arena
 - RV hookup; hotels nearby; vendors on site, restaurants, etc.
 - Presentation includes site map of the facility – we will be in the centre of it
 - Central Florida; temperature around 80F
 - Strong equestrian culture
 - Separate space for Nations with security but it is a large, shared facility
 - Welcome dinner to kick-off and final Gala night with theme of 'Country Chic'
 - Local additional features include World Equestrian Centre, Silver Springs glass-bottom boats, downtown Ocala dining and nightlife
 - Approx. \$4000USD/team includes breakfast and dinner; they are subsidising horse haulage - estimating \$500USD /pony

3.5 IMGA sanctioned championships for 2027 - UPDATES

- Chairperson Conor suggests convening the involved countries to settle dates as soon as possible within the upcoming weeks to come up with a solution and dates and to publicize these at the earliest convenience. Chief Referee Mark asks that Conor mediate this discussion to ensure expediency of decisions
 - Meeting of the four (WTC, WPC, WIC, ET&IC) suggested by Conor in two weeks' time
- World Team Championships, La Bonde, France
- World Pairs Championships, Stadl Paura, Austria – already booked July 26 – August 2
- World Individual Championships, Chepstow, Wales – David Broome Centre – dates committed August 2 - 8
- European Team and Individual Championships, Sweden
- Nations Team Championship, South Africa

Discussion/Questions/Comments continued from Discussion: Item 3.4

- Chairperson Conor suggests that we continue with agenda; could agree for 2027 that we move one of the competitions out of the summer months - run in May, June, or September.
- General Agreement to pass on this item and deal with it in whatever best manner we can next time.

Note – brief procedural discussion at this time, considering the order of the agenda as it may apply to **Item 3.6 Selection of hosts for 2028:**

- Item 4.9 is likely to generate extensive discussion – should it occur now?
- Consider that a competition format change could impact the 2028 bids
- Confirmed that any decision regarding alternate year competition format will include all countries; Nations countries will be considered
- Noted that any decision arising from Item 4.9 would apply to bids beyond 2028 as these bids are ready to go now
- Generally agreed by participants to continue with Item 3.6

3.6 Selection of hosts for 2028 IMGA sanctioned competitions

Refer to Annex 3.5 for details of bids*

***Note**

- **Italy and France - Corné** - have each applied for multiple competitions but can only host one of them (in the case of WTC, that would include both age groups)
- **France – Corné** - organisers have expressed a preference for WTC or WPC over WIC
- **Germany** has applied for multiple competitions (WTC, Europeans, WIC), but organisers are happy to take a maximum of two

- **2028 IMGA World Team Championships (U18/Open)**

Candidates: Germany/Italy/France - Corné

Germany – Luhmuhlen (Widu)

- Seeking to enhance audience; increase visibility
 - venue to become a known location for mounted games activity
 - Spectators drawn through advertising – social media – they are starting in 2026 and wish to keep their momentum by planning immediately for a subsequent competition hence 2028
 - Key feature is to link your own social media Instagram with the larger organization - futuristic but some lead key people – Peter McCarthy, Italian riders - now starting their own schools and training programs
- Main ring 100m x 80 - seven lanes Individuals, six lanes Teams.
 - Arenas b and c - 126m
 - For Euro Individuals – for finals and semis all competitions in the main ring

- Pool pony arrangements – early going for meaningful comment; obviously provision of ponies is a requirement but hard to be specific about it at this time
- Question - Will short arena games be featured for main ring A? Answer - Depends on outcome of 2026 Individuals
 - Chief Referee Mark states Teams or Pairs would need to be short arena rules
 - Noted that the ring can be extended as it has been before however for Individuals 2026 no need
 - Mark reminds that 110 m all-weather arena length is fine for teams; short arena rules have been used – this year for pairs

Italy – (Simone facilitated by Andrea)

- Keen to have another big event; new venue closer to Pisa
- Arena 124mx 90m – eight lanes; has been used for mounted games
- Possibility of lights for evening cooler sessions; morning sessions until 11, then 5 – 10pm - good solution for the Italian heat
- Currently expanding with new arena – 105m x 65m; 6 lanes good for Individuals with semis and finals in the main arena (eight lanes)
- Open to end of August dates due to July heat; late in August they are concerned about the storm season; afternoon breeze from the sea which is very important daily at about 3.
 - Question - Good facility for misting and cooling stations? Answer – yes.
- Italy's first choice is to host Europeans but open to World Teams if that isn't possible
- Large venue; 400 stalls and much space for camping
 - Question - Commitment to avoid July dates as very adverse for horse and rider health? A - Andrea reiterates that the desire is to go the end of August; before school start up (if awarded Europeans which is their preference)
 - Q - If awarded WTC will the pony cost be the same? A - they will benefit from their last experience and seek pricing similar to e.g. US
 - Q - Will feed be provided this time? A - Yes
 - Q - The stabling ceiling height may trap heat? A - good airflow
 - Q - Lighting looks like there are shadows in the arena? A – the lighting is not as shown in photo; last year they placed 16 lights so rider feedback was good about lighting
 - Q - lumens required? A - Chris has all of that information available
 - Andrea can provide more photos to illustrate the lighting; end of August temperatures will allow full day running so possibly no nighttime light requirements

France - Corné – Valentin

- Corné seeks only one competition (WTC, Pairs or Individuals) with preference for World Pairs

- Good opportunity for pool ponies in that area – they supplied many for Belgium WTC 2025
- Work with mounted games really well as organizers
- Q - How many arenas are of a size suitable for games? A – If awarded WTC they would only use the main arena
 - Chief Referee Mark notes that the second arena is 104m x 44m, suitable for four lanes only serviceable for U12
- Q - If WTC that would be three years in a row for France? A - Yes – so the vote will decide

Voting Results:

- Germany (Luhmuhlen) is awarded the hosting of the 2028 IMGA World Team Championships. Congratulations, Germany!

2028 IMGA World Pairs Championships (All age groups)

Candidates: France - Corné

- As the single candidate, Corne is awarded the hosting of the 2028 IMGA World Pairs Championships 2028 (All age groups). Congratulations, organisers for Corné.

2028 IMGA World Individual Championships (All age groups)

Candidates: Germany/~~France~~—~~Corné~~/France - Logis du Poney

(*Note – voting for this championship occurred after voting for WTC.)

France - Logis du Poney – Cyril Barreau

- First time for a bid; description of area of La Vienne
- Several km from Poitiers; welcoming, dynamic, excellent local food
- Near Bordeaux airport and only 1.5hr from Paris by TGV
- High quality, modern and functional, responding to variety of equestrian event needs
- Main arena is 125m x 95m sand combination – guaranteed supple and firm
- Warmup 60m x 22m
- Built-in watering system and water tanker; 3m harrow yields excellent surface every time for all uses
- Five showers, two toilets, two horse showers, parking for all vehicles
- Food area improvement between now and 2027; providing additional showers, toilets, parking, and camping
- Organizationally strong with team of volunteers accustomed to hosting large scale international competitions
- Team introduction in limousines; variety of activities to be provided
- Spaces and security – responsive to the needs and numbers; exclusive horse areas; no public mixing; vendors and sponsors being activated; planned promotional campaign
- Wednesday to Saturday with Sunday departure: exact dates to be negotiated with full set of 2028 organizers

- If needed site can be opened on Monday
- Finals on Saturday – Gala Saturday; convivial and welcoming atmosphere
- Gala at nearby village with shuttle bus available through to the end of the evening
- Looking for all measures to be put in place for optimal competition experience including vet, farrier, and medical
- Goal is to put the sport on the international stage with an excellent, memorable arena
- For the moment they would prefer to host Individuals to maintain the use of their current warmup arena space
- Q - One arena - difficult to host all entries between Wednesday and Saturday? A – Possibility of expanding dates for Monday to Saturday
- Q – Possible to have lighting? A – Yes; some already in place with rented additional lighting having been used as required

Voting Results:

- France - Logis du Poney is awarded the hosting of the 2028 IMGA World Individual Championships (All age groups). Congratulations, organisers for Logis du Poney!

2028 IMGA European Team and Individual Championship (All age groups)

Candidates: ~~Germany~~/Italy/Ireland

Italy – (Simone/Andrea) - see previous presentation WTC

Ireland – Conor

- Arena – 186m x 140m with second arena of 150m x 8m/lane with 10m for side space used for U12 and U15
- Teams' competition is the priority with provision for a set maximum number of Individuals - due to Monday start (Sunday move-in)
- 7m x 4m viewing screen works well and was made possible from financial boost provided by additional 2025 Individual entries
- Committed to doing all they can to slot the teams in for extended stabling
- ETC is the only IMGA championship possible for Ireland to host

Note* - Only European countries are to vote.

- Voting on the hosting of Europeans TIC between Italy and Ireland was conducted later in the agenda Saturday at 10:00 CET.
- A revote on hosting Europeans 2028 was conducted Sunday morning:
 - Ireland - ten (10)
 - Italy - six (6)

Voting Results*:

- Ireland is awarded the hosting of the 2028 IMGA European Team and Individual Championships (All age groups). Congratulations, organisers for Ireland!

2028 IMGA Nations Team Championships (Open)

Candidate: ~~China~~ - Based on Nations countries' Host Roster for 2025-2029*

*See *Hosting A Sanctioned Competition – Nations Annex*

Note – China has withdrawn from hosting the 2028 Nations Team Championship

3.7 2026 Meetings

- On-line meetings 2026:
 - February - date to be determined
 - May – date to be determined
 - August at World Team Championships - Lamotte-Beuvron, France
- Annual General Meeting: November 14/15, 2026
 - Offers from
 - Sweden – Gothenburg
 - Wales – Celtic Manor Hotel near David Broome Event Centre

Two offers have been made which is very generous.

Voting Results:

The offer by Wales to host the 2026 IMGA AGM at the Celtic Manor Hotel near David Broome Event Centre has been accepted.

4. Important Discussions and Decisions

4.1 Drugs Policy

Presented by Conor O'Leary

Covered in earlier report and discussion – Item 2.6 Health and Safety Committee

4.2 Veterans' Class

Presented by Chris Wheeler

Discussion/Comments/Questions

- Chris suggests that a country interested in hosting such a competition bring a proposal to the table for consideration
- Description provided of France's two categories for veteran riders which has been successful
 - Over 27, then second category of Over 40
 - Suggestion made to test and try this in as an age category within existing competitions
 - Opinion expressed that this would be best started with pairs e.g. New Zealand's approach

- Noted that this would be something that someone would have to undertake
- Conor suggests returning to the next (February) meeting with a proposal
 - Valentin commits to running a Veterans' division which if approved in February would fall under the refereeing jurisdiction of IMGA

Action Item: Valentin to bring to the February meeting, details of running a Veteran's division at the 2026 WPC France – Corné.

4.3 Worldwide Games

Presented by Chris Wheeler

Discussion/Comments/Questions

- Chris is passing along this portfolio to someone who is interested in carrying forward the initiative of video-based mounted games competition
 - Comments shared about the technical aspect of this concept as being prohibitive - cost and implementation management being key issues; Mats may have some ideas for future consideration

Action Item: Mats and Chris will continue discussion of the potential of moving this project forward.

4.9 Alternating IMGA Championships

Presented by Stéphane Tardif (Valentin Vieilledent)

- Even Years:
 - European Team and Individual Championship
 - World Pairs Championship
 - World Individual Championship
- Odd Years:
 - Nations Team Championship
 - European Pairs Championship (new)
 - World Team Championship

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- This is an almost annual discussion which has historically generated a 'no' vote
- Frequency of this discussion highlights the continuing difficulties developing annual timetable to address the pressure and clustering of competitions within short time period (typically July and August)
- Development Officer Widu suggests a workshop forum for determination of a direction for IMGA to facilitate lasting resolution to this issue
- Chairperson Conor - topic is not immediately required but important to decide prior to request for 2029 bids by countries

- Assertion made that high quality competitions will generate interest and commitment; avoid annual, lower quality competitions just due to perceived threat of riders moving to STRUK
- Opinions expressed that:
 - Alternate year format negatively impacts riders' interest
 - Promotion of younger age groups, providing opportunities at all levels all the way along seems to result in a reduction of Open riders remaining in competition
 - Current situation as being possibly a result of COVID; this discussion may generate solutions rather than rejecting the concept through a yes/no vote
 - This year's May date was possible conflict with university and school exams; need to offer as many competitions as possible for the demographic that is coming up through
 - Overseas riders attending WTC followed fairly closely by e.g. WPC, may tend to stay on and would certainly not make two separate trips
 - The availability of good ponies more possible for World Teams where organisers are required to provide a pool; for Individuals and Pairs, riders self-source which can be difficult –
 - Riders more likely not to attend based on the venue, the heat, the pony availability, etc.
 - Concern about development of team able to achieve strong performance at the open level while riding pool ponies – very little motivation and not going to be competitive
 - Counter argument that fewer competitions improves availability of high quality ponies
- Suggestion made to conduct a workshop - define IMGA directions - focus on and use that input in decision-making
 - Develop a proposal which defines the range of dates for each competition
 - Try for agreement about a process while reps are gathered; make clear the approach to decision-making about the type and number of IMGA competitions offered yearly
 - Try the proposal of alternating years, then review instead of annual discussion and rejection
- Countries continuing to develop their capacity to send teams benefit from the opportunity presented annually e.g. Canada now ready to send teams to WTC – not the case if it had been held in 2025
- Question - Are there non-European countries with riders at the full offering of WTC, WIC, WPC. Answer – There are a couple with increasing trend, including riders shipping their own ponies
 - Nations riders starting to travel to more competitions so would prefer to make the most of the trip especially if transporting ponies; makes most financial sense to attend several competitions
- In general, long-term goals and direction of the organization need to be established to resolve this matter going forward
 - That this comes up every year as indicative of not having resolved the root of the problem which is calendar-based

- Riders ideally wishing to attend all four of the major competitions while the organisers come from a different basis; the two are not aligned necessarily
- Chairperson Conor views that for this item more than 50% acceptance by vote needed; proper discussion required and acceptable by all parts of the world
- Even if accepted today, further discussion necessary with an effective date of e.g. 2030
- No reason for Nations to be included as an alternating year competition; strong feeling that this will kill the sport for Nations countries

Closing Discussion – Saturday, November 15

- IMGA direction-setting workshop aimed at establishing a process for competition scheduling considering the many factors mentioned today and as historically discussed is generally agreed to be a priority. The goal is for Development Officer Widu to lead a workshop to identify best methods for moving forward to outlining and achieving the goals of IMGA
- Selection of earlier start time – 7:30 am (CET) discussed with generally accepted idea of direction-setting workshop a high priority to start the day; this would provide the decision-making procedure for this agenda item, in particular
- Agreed to consult with Quentin to consider his agenda items following this.

Note – voting on proposal 4.9 was completed Sunday, November 16 at 10:10 am (CET) and is included here for continuity.

Voting Representatives: 21

Voting results:

Yes – 3 No - 17 Abstain – 1

The proposal is not accepted.

Adjournment – 8:30 pm CET

Sunday, November 16, 2025

Participants in attendance as of 7:30 AM CET:

IMGA Officials:

Conor O’Leary	Chairperson	present
Quentin Voeltzel	Vice Chairperson	online
Jens Martin	Finance/Administration	regrets
Lizzy Franck	Communication	online
Widukind Moormann	Development	present
Mark Crowe	Chief Referee	present
Chris Wheeler	Secretary/Past Chairperson	present

International Representatives (V – Voting member):

Jemima Gardiner (V)	Australia	online
Rachel Lechner (V)	Austria	present
Robin Donnay (V)	Belgium	present
Michelle Cruikshanks (V)	Canada	online
Elijah Zhangxiaochan (V)	China	online
Bridget Scott (V)	Denmark (for Jens Holm Nielsen)	online
Elaine Trevor Jones (V)	England	online
Valentin Vieilledent (V)	France – (for Stéphane Tardif)	present
Mats Hensel (V)	Germany (for Volker Baasch)	present
Suresh	India	absent
Conor O’Leary (V)	Ireland	present
Andrea Piazza (V)	Italy	online
Lizzy Franck (V)	Luxembourg	online
Sue Robertson (V)	New Zealand	online
Allister Hamilton (V)	Northern Ireland	absent
Bridget Scott (V)	Norway (for Anne Kjensli Strøm)	online
Ali Fawad Chadhary	Pakistan	absent
Veronica Dodds(V)	Scotland	present
Nick Sloane (V)	South Africa – Mark - proxy	online
Quentin Voeltzel (V)	Sweden	online
Marino Kammeran	Switzerland	online
Quentin Gargallo (V)	Switzerland	present
Paul Greiling (V)	USA	present
Nikki Beach (V)	Wales	present

Guests

Bridget Scott	Proxy for Norway	online
Liz Englert	USA	present
Carol Jones	USA	present
Patrick Montgomery	Voting Scrutineer	present

Meeting Convened – 7:34 am CET

Chairperson's Opening Comments

- Note that today's agenda has been adjusted to include consideration of agenda items at the conclusion of which, anticipated for 11:00 am, the direction-setting workshop will proceed.

Note* - Procedure for Items 4.4 to 4.8

- Please note that potentially points 4.4 to 4.8 all call for changes to the constitution and fundamental structures of IMGA. As such, as per the constitution, these may all be subject to a different set of rules if they are to be implemented. A simple majority AGM vote may not be sufficient. It all depends on exactly how the change is implemented.
- Any change which necessitates a change to the actual constitution of IMGA requires the full written text of the change to be prepared, then proposed by one international rep and supported by two others. It then needs to undergo a period of either one or two months of consultation (depending on whether the change falls under part 1 or part 2 of the Constitution) and then voted upon.
- In order for it to pass in such a vote, at least 65% of the voting membership needs to participate in the vote and at least two thirds (for part 1) or a simple majority (for part 2) need to vote in favour.

4.4* Voting Power of Nations

Presented by Quentin Voeltzel – Sweden

Proposal to change IMGA voting into a weighted system:

Three (3) votes: Nations represented both by full teams at the WTC (all categories), and by at least one rider competing in each category at the WIC or WPC.

Two (2) votes: Nations represented with full teams at the WTC and at least one rider at the WIC and WPC.

One (1) vote: Nations that have participated in a World Championship.

Consultative: All other nations.

Objective: to establish a clearer system of representation, proportionate to the real sporting investment.

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Quentin suggests the need to adapt the IMGA structure and feels like this way of doing the voting gives more power to those members who have been working hard to attend competitions.
- Consequences of the votes as currently implemented gives power to the few

- To participate as a member, at least participation in one competition is required
 - Need to keep members who are knowledgeable
 - Proposal heavily skewed in favour of few countries
 - Need to acknowledge difficulties for many countries in putting forward entries
 - List of competitions to generate votes with this proposal needs to include Nations Cup
 - Difficult for small nations to force people to attend tryouts
 - Geographically biased with requirement for participation in European countries
- Chairperson Conor summarises that the proposal is to give weight to organizations who have participated; notes that the sense of logistics for this voting is difficult.

Voting Representatives: 19

Voting Results:

Yes – 2 No – 16 Abstain - 1

The proposal is not accepted.

Action item: Review who has full voting rights on items proposed at IMGA meetings.

4.5* Relocation of the Headquarters

Presented by Quentin Voeltzel

Proposal to relocate the IMGA headquarters to continental Europe, ideally within the FFE headquarters.

- **Benefits:** natural proximity with the FFE, possibility to subcontract certain administrative tasks, European development (grants, partnerships).
- **Objective:** to provide the IMGA with proper insurance (currently non-existent) and stable administrative resources.
Concept to provide proper insurance and have an office open on a once/week basis.

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Question - You are proposing both together? Answer – No
- Question – FFE is willing to accept? Answer - Quentin states that this would require discussion
 - Valentin confirms based on conversation with Stéphane of the FFE that the proposal could be considered once the Federation agrees; they haven't yet agreed

- Question – Chief Referee Mark – What does the headquarters actually mean?
Answer – Mark confirms from Administration and Finance Officer Jens: IMGGA is a small company registered in England and Wales
- A vote on this proposal would just be an indicative vote since it involves a constitutional change
- Concern expressed about becoming aligned with a particular organization or country –
 - Not allied currently with one country's rules and requirements
 - Not currently located at an actual address, just a company address
 - Consider that the headquarter is wherever this group is
- Consider the benefits based on the significant amount of administrative work which could be shared; look at the whole thing and consider if this is a benefit worth pursuing
- Consider seeking sponsorships and grants to explore this idea; develop it more fully; solidly identify grant requirements
- Proposal considers move toward insuring executive members
 - Mark confirms that for competitions, insurance is responsibility of host country, riders require insurance
 - Jens previously researched this matter; difficulty included range of jurisdictions
- Generally agreed that the topic is important and needs further discussion and research

Voting Results:

Yes – 1 No – 16 Abstain - 1

The motion is rejected.

Action item: Research liability insurance to answer our questions about the possibility of liability coverage for IMGGA Officers. Move forward with a view to ensuring that officers of IMGGA are fully covered, including members of the International representatives' group.

4.6* Administrative Support

Presented by Quentin Voeltzel

Introduction of an administrative support role, either through employment or subcontracting:

- One day per week
- Mandatory presence at all World Championships

Quentin elaborates on the proposal as helping to develop the association and employ an administrator. He reflects on the usefulness of the MGAGB Secretary and views that this role has enhanced the ability of that organisation to respond to administrative tasks.

Discussion/Comments/Questions

- Suggestion made that we consider trying this:
 - Since we all have jobs, etc.
 - The proposal considers subcontracting as a possibility; aim is for a helpful, not costly measure
 - Chris shares that Chairperson tasks are variable ranging from one hour per day to sometimes one hour/week
 - An administrator as stable through Officer changes as useful
 - Job description of ongoing tasks essential
 - Seek additional sources of income to cover cost; riders are bearing more of the costs
 - Build up more financial reserves
- Consider that mandatory presence of this person at competitions may be problematic:
 - Rider fee income is to cover travel expenses of referees; not wishing to add more to riders' costs
 - Current balance of £30K is reflective of membership income, too, over time
 - One day/week is perhaps feasible but mandatory presence at competitions comes with significant expense
 - Income from membership currently £7K or £8K; to employ a person one day/week is at least that
- Noted also that an administrator would need assigned duties versus the Chairperson's inherent decision-making capacity and ambassadorial skills
- Suggestions made include:
 - Noting that we are a volunteer non-profit organization, consider a volunteer secretarial role even divided across several people as a starting point
 - Identify the actual role requirement prior to establishing whether and how it would be best addressed to grow the organization
 - Complete a job description and gain a sense of what the role requires
 - Consider many examples of introducing a paid role causing a reduction in volunteers within the whole organisation
 - Define what we are as an organisation and where we are going prior to answering some of these questions
 - Discuss and identify directions first, then facilitate responding to these ongoing questions; ensure that this workshop occurs soon

Motion: The proposal is to introduce an administrative support role to IMGA, either through employment or subcontracting.

Voting Representatives: 21 (Note – Nick (RSA) joined)

Voting Results:

Yes - 4 No - 15 Abstain - 2

The motion is rejected. (9:28am CET)

4.7* Governance and Transparency

Presented by Quentin Voeltzel – Sweden

- Creation of an Executive Committee and a Board of Directors
- Mandatory monthly meetings of the Board of Directors
- Four-year terms, renewable once

Objective: To set a clear direction, encourage dialogue, limit autocracy, and strengthen the legitimacy of elected officials.

Quentin V. elaborates on the proposal: Is it possible for the Executive Officers to have discussion and to improve the clarity of what we do and to push IMGA forward and to enhance communication within the group of Officers? Meetings are not required to be in-person.

Discussion/Comments/Questions

- Chairperson Conor asserts that regular meetings are essential; terms of office are useful but as to the length of term – this is debatable
- Chief Referee Mark confirms that an Executive Committee exists – Chairperson, Vice-chair, Communication Officer, Chief Referee, Development Officer, Administration and Finance Officer
 - Terms are currently two years, no limit on renewal
 - Confirmed that a vote on this proposal cannot change the Constitution today:
 - Point one of the proposal, we already have
 - Point two is an administrative decision
- Constitutional change is required for a change to four year term, renewal once; so the process would have to followed
- Confirmation provided that International Representatives meet every three months Past Chair Chris reminds that the agenda is distributed one month in advance of the meeting
- Chairperson Conor confirms that monthly Executive meetings will be implemented
- Regarding assertion that decisions are made slowly and with little flexibility and tolerance for change:
 - Some decisions require this length of consideration
 - International reps meet every three months which allows for due process and consultation with their home organisations
- General agreement among participants that the only change is the length of term for Officers; the voting proposal is amended as follows with the agreement of the proposer:

Motion: That IMGA Officers be elected for a four year term, renewable once.

Voting results:

Yes – 3 No – 15 Abstain – 2

The motion is defeated.

4.8* General Assemblies

Presented by Quentin Voeltzel

- Removal of the International Representative position
- Introduction of **online voting**: proposals to be sent one month in advance, each member association president casts their vote and the AGM becomes the presentation of results
- The AGM evolves into a **true form for exchange**: round tables, expert contributions, clinics on best equestrian and educational practices, prevention, development

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Quentin provides added detail on the proposal, emphasising the aspect of online voting and ensuring that proposals be sent one month in advance
 - Proposal includes that each member association president votes directly
- Development Officer Widu – likes the idea of point two and three where the exchange of actual ideas is the key use of time in a meeting
 - Move through agenda items efficiently such that best practices, etc. may be considered
 - Need for secret ballot even at the level of online voting
 - Discussion in meetings is important
 - Meetings for riders and trainers, etc. are of value and need consideration
 - Larger rider/trainer forum featuring best practices, current approaches, training, etc. worth considering as key offering by IMGA
- Communication – is a challenge; at the country individual member level, there is frustration of finding or receiving information
 - Reminder provided that sharing of information needs to be actively undertaken and is the commitment and responsibility of the international representatives at the country level
 - At the IMGA level, the website is referred to but then the onus is on the public/clients must seek it; not up to IMGA to ensure that each rider has their information
- Suggestions for time limits on debate/discussion as a possibility
- Counter opinion put forward that proposals benefit from the full discussion that occurs
 - Sharing with stakeholders follows at the country level, then on to riders, etc. so important to have full information and consideration of ideas coming from member countries
- Chief Referee Mark points out need for decision on what we are voting for – the proposal has three parts
- Proposer Quentin - Do you want the wording to reflect changes in the proposal?
- General agreement to vote on the proposal with follow-up action item to consider ways to improve the procedures involved in putting forward, discussing, and voting on proposals

Voting Representatives: 20

Voting Results:

Yes - 0

No – 18

Abstain - 2

Action Items - Consider online voting on proposals and/or changes to the process of considering proposals.

4.10 Banned Riders

Presented by Stéphane Tardif (Valentin Vieilledent)

A rider banned from competing by their country cannot compete under the IMGA flag; the country pays the IMGA dues and therefore controls its members (unless the rider obtains a license in another country).

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Elaboration on the proposal - If a country bans a rider, it should not be possible for them to ride; not good for the respect of the country that they be allowed to ride even through taking out membership in another country
- Historically, several reasons have existed for banning riders
 - IMGA wishes to remain out of disputes in member organizations
 - Example of small country membership with banning when conflicts arose based on personality and or an isolated argument
- White flag riders accepted at EIC this year; Ireland exerted right to accept riders based on rider agreeing that the information be shared; felt that the host country can decide to accept the rider
 - Confirmation given that the rider obtained their own insurance
- Assertion made that the home country should have the overriding authority and that the rider continue to be banned
- Discussion of possibility of third party opinion – assures that the rider ban is based on safety of all
- Proposal in February (Quentin V.) about the white flag – noted that it was very difficult to get information from countries, especially if this was based on criminal / legal proceedings
- Confirmation that the rider must apply to the committee for permission to ride and agree to full disclosure; host country has the final decision, and that the rider, if accepted, provides insurance
- Discussion continues regarding the composition, jurisdiction and decision-making authority of the Ground Jury (Chief Referee, Representative of IMGA and representative of organising committee)
 - Opinion expressed that the committee then needs to be set up more proactively which is easy to do.
 - Pointed out that the only additional person would be the chef d'équipe of the team

- Question - What happens when a rider is banned but enters several different competitions having different hosts Answer - Review that the entry list sent ahead of the comp requests that home countries indicate any ban(s), then the process is activated.
- What if rider banned because of a current year issue at a comp, then applies to another?
- Further discussion regarding process
 - A Rider not sanctioned by their country –
 1. Executive Officers receive notification of the ban and the proposed entry
 2. Rider must accept and sign off on full disclosure of reason(s) for the ban from the home country
 3. The home country fully discloses the reason for the ban
 4. The host country holds the final decision to allow the entry of the rider to the competition in question
- IMGA has no control over supporters in attendance
 - A home country should be aware and mindful of who is attending in support of entries
 - Public site – difficult to control access; home country responsibility to require membership and send those
 - Final question re person officiating being banned from acting in the ring

Action Item: With agreement, this proposal is to be included as an agenda item for voting at the February International Representative meeting; agenda to be shared in January for a vote in February.

4.11 Changes to membership structure

Presented by Jens Martin

Motion to make the required documentation changes to fully implement membership structure changes adopted at the 2024 IMGA AGM.

Refer to Annex 4.11

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Chairperson Conor reviews that this is a housekeeping item from last year's AGM (In response to a question regarding future provision of additional detail about defining 'number of riders').

Voting Representatives: 21

Voting results:

Yes - 100%

The motion is accepted.

4.12 Changes to Chair and Vice-Chair Job Description

Presented by Jens Martin (Chris Wheeler)

Refer to Annex 4.12

Proposed change to Regulations document (Version 2013.01) to remove ambiguity that currently allows overlap between roles of Chair and Vice-Chair, ensuring clear lines of authority and accountability.

Discussion/Questions/Comment

- From Annex 4.12, Role Description (as shared onscreen):

~~**The vice chair shares these responsibilities, obligations, and rights and is expected at any time to be able to take over the role of Chair in the case of illness of the Chair or other unforeseen circumstances.*~~

The vice chair supports the Chair in the performance of these duties and acts under the direction and authority of the Chair.

The vice-chair may represent the Chair of the Association only when specifically requested to do so by the Chair or when the Chair is temporarily unable to act.

The vice chair shall assist in ensuring continuity of leadership but does not possess independent executive authority unless explicitly delegated.

In the event of the Chair's incapacity, resignation, or other absence, the vice-chair shall assume the role of Acting Chair until a new Chair is elected or the Chair resumes duties.

***Note** – strikethrough indicates suggested editing of the job description during discussion.

- Question - Why now for this item? Concern expressed that this item reflects the emergence of personal conflicts between specific IMGA Officers rather than being motivated by procedural deficiencies
- Opinion expressed that the original wording of the role description seems to indicate that there is a co-chairpersonship with Chair and Vice-chair sharing duties and responsibilities
 - Discussion revolves around the definitions of key words, including request for specific details of the difference(s) between the role of Chair and Vice-Chair
 - Opinion expressed that this item is being put forward based on a personal dispute; countered by the view that this is simply a matter of a job description which requires occasional review as is the case in most organisations
 - Assertion made that the new description removes the role of the Vice-chair and effectively removes the Vice-chair's ability to act or hold opinions independently of the Chair

- Confirmation provided that this job description is from the IMGA Regulations rather than from the Constitution. Further elaboration is provided regarding the distinction between regulations and constitution
 - As such, voting on this proposal is allowed
- Discussion continues – Chairperson Conor summarises that we are seeking to confirm distinction between the Chair’s authority and that of the Vice-Chair; that the Chair and the Vice-Chair do not share the same authority.
 - If accepted, then the wording goes ahead and if it is rejected it would be understood that the matter returns at a next meeting

Motion: Defer voting on the Item until action item completion and review.

Voting Representatives: 21

Voting results:

Yes – 13

No – 4

Abstain – 4

Action Item: Complete rewording of the proposal, in particular the first paragraph such that differentiation between the authority of the Vice and the Chair is clearly articulated.

4.15 Conflict of Interest Policy

Presented by Jens Martin (Bridget Scott)

Proposed introduction of a Conflict-of-interest policy document.

Refer to Annex 4.15

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Bridget outlines for Jens – result of discussions and item of last year’s AGM where the case was shared of the trainer of one country’s team at Europeans was the chief referee for the competition. The policy is put forward to address the need for full declaration of conflict(s) of interest.
- The form presented is formalizing an already generally accepted practice and reflects already established interest in ensuring neutrality, fairness, and no gain or undue influence
- Good, thorough document which provides a general commitment to not gain or unduly be in a position of influence – the emphasis is on declaring the conflict of interest
- Similar document in use in several countries e.g. New Zealand, and viewed as a necessary part of an organization’s structure
- Chairperson Conor confirms the intent here that any conflicts of interest be declared; the motion/proposal does not provide remedy for such. i.e. doesn’t mean that an action can or cannot be taken
 - Opinion expressed that the scale and scope of the conflict of interest may not be adequately described i.e. the full scale of potential transactions could be better covered

- Chief Referee Mark describes his own experiences as indicative of the intent to ensure declaration of conflicts of interest – refereeing where ref’s child is a rider
- Proposal outlines sharing of declared conflicts of interest i.e. ‘go through the Executive Committee or the relevant sub-committee’
 - Opinion expressed that this is a clarification of existing practice; seeks reduction of issues by informing all in advance – open and transparent
- Clarification that Financial and personal gain are the two main scenarios for which declarations be made
 - Opinion expressed that the general and comprehensive nature of the document allows for future and unforeseen situations to be covered.
- Further discussion and sharing of variety of scenarios encountered across the mounted games world particularly in awarding hosting of competitions and subcontracting for related goods and services
- Review suggested of the wording of the *Hosting* document relative to profit, undue financial gain from the hosting of competitions

Voting Results:

Yes – 15

No – 2

Abstain - 2

The Conflict of Interest Policy document is adopted.

Action Items:

1. Provide definition of and distinction between wording of the various committees and groups involved in IMGA decision-making. Ensure that this is made clear and explicit e.g. Executive Officers, Directors, Committees, and the group of International Representatives.
2. Review the wording in the *Hosting A Sanctioned Competition* document relative to profit, financial gain from the hosting of competitions.

4.13 Formal Board of Approval Procedure for Annual Accounts

Presented by Quentin Voeltzel

At present, the financial statements presented in November are based on interim figures and not on the closed statutory accounts for the financial year ending 31 December. These interim figures are not subsequently re-presented for formal validation once the accounts are finalised and filed.

Furthermore, the statutory accounts filed with the authorities are submitted directly by the Treasurer without circulation to, examination by, or explicit approval from the full Board.

As Board members, our names and responsibilities are collectively engaged in these filings. In order to align IMGA with established UK governance standards (including the Charity Governance Code

and Companies Act principles of collective fiduciary responsibility), I request that we establish a clear and formal procedure whereby:

- The final statutory accounts are circulated to all Board members prior to filing
- A formal Board resolution (“Approved by Board Resolution No. X”) is adopted, even via electronic procedure, before submission to the registry

Action Item: Proposal 4.13 to be table/deferred to the February International Representatives’ meeting with the agreement of the proposer.

4.14 Structured Annual Development Budget to Support Emerging Nations.

Presented by Quentin Voeltzel

In continuation of our mission to expand IMGA not only geographically but also in terms of sustainable capacity-building, I would like to propose the creation of a dedicated annual financial envelope specifically allocated to support new and developing member countries. This would enable IMGA to:

- Provide practical financial support for structured development initiatives
- Reinforce long-term engagement rather than symbolic affiliation
- Activate development potential linked to the future role of the development officer should his candidacy as Development Officer be confirmed, allowing him to operate with real impact and means.

I personally commit to contributing to the design of this framework to ensure that IMGA development is not only quantitative (more countries) but qualitative and supported financially, consistent with our global vision.

Action Item: Proposal 4.14 to be deferred to the February meeting of the International Representatives with agreement of the proposer.

4.16 Updating IMGA Procedure point 7.2 to also include “IMGA Oversight Officers for Sanctioned Competitions” in line with decision made in 2022.

Presented by Jens Martin (Bridget Scott)

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Bridget summarizes this item as a vote ratifying the decision made in 2022
- History of the decision made was reviewed for the information of participants:
 - This item, approved at the AGM of 2022, separated issues and matters not directly related to the running of the competition ring (the responsibility of the Referee), to be properly addressed through the involvement of at least one IMGA Oversight Officer in attending to matters arising at the competition but outside of the competition arena.

Voting Representatives: 18

Voting results:

Yes -16 No – 0 Abstain - 2

The proposal to update Procedure point 7.2 is approved.

3.3* Referee Selection for 2026 IMGA Sanctioned Competitions

***IMGA Referee Selection Results for 2026**

- Tiebreak for referee selection WIC - poll completed 11:19 am CET
 - Result – Ove and Joachim selected
- Tiebreak for referee selection WPC – poll completed 11:21 am CET
 - Result – Bridget Scott selected

• World Individual Championship – Six (6) or eight (8) needed:

- Andrew Rodaughan
- Jerome O’Connor
- Patrick Montgomery
- Bridget Scott
- Warwick Slade
- Michele Spina

Reserves: For seventh and eight referees if required, three candidates are currently tied – Ove, Lukas, Joachim.

- **World Team Championship** – Two (2) referees required

- Mark Crowe
- Anthony Rowle-Jones

Reserve – Luigi Irollo

- **European Team and Individual Championships** – Six (6) referees required

- Mark Crowe
- Jerome O'Connor
- Michele spina
- Luigi Irollo
- Anthony Rowle-Jones
- Christophe Rossier

Reserves: Bridget and Joachim (tied)

- **World Pairs Championship** – Five (5) referees required

- Mark Crowe
- Jerome O'Connor
- Warwick Slade
- Christophe Rossier
- Bridget Scott

- **Nations Team Championship**

- Mark Crowe

Reserve - Three candidates, tied at one vote each

Chairperson's Closing Remarks:

Chairperson Conor notes that there is a strong consensus to undertake and complete the very important direction-setting discussion/workshop at another time ahead of the next AGM.

Development Officer Widu will explore the possibilities for setting up an online session since several of our International Representatives have already departed from this meeting and more than half of those in attendance this year are currently participating online. If completed ahead of the AGM, Chief Referee Mark notes that the results of this direction-setting will provide guidance for voting practices for the next AGM.

A review of this meeting's agenda items confirms that **Items 3.1, 4.13 and 4.14** have been tabled/deferred to the next meeting of International Representatives to be scheduled for February. The agenda will be distributed one month in advance of the meeting.

Mark thanks Past Chairperson Chris Wheeler for his six years of stellar service to IMGA in the role of Chairperson and notes Chris's significant support even prior to that official involvement as an Executive Officer.

Mark informs participants of the gift being delivered to Chris at his home on behalf of IMGA as a token of our thanks.

Past Chair Chris thanks Michelle for taking the minutes of the meeting. Participants share their thank with fellow participants and exchange parting good wishes.

Meeting adjourned – 11:35 am CET