



WDSF PRESIDIUM MEETING

JANUARY 21 & 22, 2012

HOTEL BARCELÓ SANTS (BARCELONA, SPAIN)

TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS: FROM 10:00 TO 19:00 on Saturday and 9:00 to 19:00
on Sunday

Present:	Carlos Freitag CF	President
	Lukas Hinder LH	First Vice President
	Shawn Tay ST	General Secretary
	Marco Sietas MS	Sports Director
	Tony Tilenni TT	Treasurer
	Pavel Dorokhov PD	Presidium Member
	Michael Eichert ME	Presidium Member
	Jim Fraser JF	Presidium Member
	Heidi Goetz HG	Presidium Member
	Keiji Ukai KU	Presidium Member
	Timo Kulchak TK	Athletes Commission
	Grethe Andersen GA *	IPC Wheelchair DanceSport
	Jeff Bartholomew JB *	UCWDC
	Miriam Kerpan-Izak MKI *	WRRC
	Aleksandr Melnikov AM *	WDSF PD
	Sandi Wiemers SW *	WBTF
	Richard Bunn RB	Advisor
	John Caprez JC	Advisor
	Roland Hilfiker RF	Advisor

Presidium Members indicated with * were only present for the Saturday meeting.

Apology Natasa Ambroz, due to illness



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA



SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2012 – 10:00 A.M.

MEETING WITH WDSF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

- 1. The President welcomed all members particularly the representatives of the Associate Members to this first full meeting under the new VISION 2012 organisational structure.**
- 2. Detailed information was received from each Federation/discipline, relating to work performed by them from June 2011 until now and regarding work on the Membership of the Associate Members inside the World DanceSport Federation.**

- **WRRRC**

MKI reported that it is difficult to use the WRRRC Statutes to comply with Associate Membership agreement in full, so some changes are needed. A Special Commission has been appointed to recommend changes to the Statutes. The proposed changes will be addressed by the WRRRC Presidium next week.

There could be a new membership from New Zealand and a possible change in membership in Denmark this year.

It is anticipated that the new Statutes will be approved at this year's AGM.

LH suggested that semi-annual reports be provided by all Associate Members to WDSF to monitor progress.

- **UCWDC (Country and Western Dance)**

JB reported that the UCWDC is currently preparing an update to its Statutes to comply with the changes required under the Associate Membership Agreement. JB sought assistance from JF to assist in producing Statutes that fulfilled obligations under the Associate Membership Agreements signed with WDSF. JF agreed to assist.

JB advised that the first Olympiad held by UCWDC already complied with WADA requirements.

It was also confirmed that Japan may be joining UCWDC in due course. Incorporation of new UCWDC Member bodies has already occurred in France, Italy and Norway.

JB reported that difficulties exist in dealing with some WDSF member bodies.

- **WBTF (Baton Twirling)**

SW expressed concerns about how Baton Twirling can be integrated into WDSF DanceSport. There are questions about the structure that need to be addressed when CF attends the WBTF meeting next week. SW also explained that the WBTF



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

wish to have the sport sections in Baton Twirling treated as a division of the WBTF which would be governed by the WDSF.

SW also reported that there were some misunderstandings as to how this project worked and now there is a much greater understanding of the requirements.

CF and LH suggested that the body has to decide during the trial period as to whether they are all in or all out. It is not possible to split the sport.

Some WDSF member bodies are already including Baton Twirling as part of their events.

SW advised that WBTF is working on solving problems at a country-member level and that it just takes a very long time.

- **IPC – (Wheelchair DanceSport)**

CF wrote to the IPC to ask if the time was right to establish Wheelchair DanceSport as a division of WDSF. In principle Wheelchair wishes to proceed with integration with WDSF.

GA suggested that by 2016 Wheelchair DanceSport must decide to establish themselves as an IF or instead join with WDSF. At present some questions should be addressed to determine the best solution.

The WDSF pathway would permit Wheelchair DanceSport to enter the Paralympic Games.

GA reported that they are working very hard to achieve progress in the sport and the future of the sport.

There will probably be a World Championship and Continental Cups in Wheelchair DanceSport which will be conducted this year.

The President closed by saying that he hoped that Wheelchair can co-operate with WDSF Member bodies to develop the sport.

- **WDSF PD (Professional Division)**

The Presidium **confirmed** that Teacher-Student is conducted via the PD.

AM believes that it will be possible to have a PD inside each WDSF member body by August 31, 2013.

3. Can obligations under the Associate Membership Agreements be achieved within the agreed period of two years - by August 31, 2013?

In January, 2013 a meeting will be held with Associate Members to discuss progress. UCWDC, WRRRC & the WDSF PD believe that it is possible to integrate their disciplines into each WDSF Member body by that time.

WBTF sees difficulties in achieving such a result by August 31, 2013.

LH suggested that Associate Members contact WDSF Member bodies to assist in the integration process.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

Roland Hilfiker suggested that the time is right to start a campaign to describe the progress we have made so far, including flyers, a video and the web. Input will be required from all Associate Members.

LH emphasized that the adoption of the logo by Associate Members is part of this process.

LH recommended that WDSF must find and recruit existing sport dance Federations to bring all DanceSport disciplines into the WDSF under the VISION 2012 programme, or that alternatively, WDSF could conduct these disciplines by forming new bodies.

4. CF reported that WDSF has received invitations to attend the Annual General Meetings of all Associate Members.

5. Proposals for integrated or combined events during the year.

CF explained that for the moment WDSF organises many events and we include nearly all the additional disciplines represented by the new Associate Members. In 2012, Baton Twirling will also be included in some of these competitions.

CF wants to get as much help as possible from Associate Members to work together to grow such events.

MKI & JB reported that the recent world economic problems and the resulting reduction in financial resources has affected the development of such combined events.

SW believes that a common template should be created at a Federation level to show potential producers how such combined events could work.

JF suggested that we need to encourage members by explaining how they could proceed with such joint events at a national level.

LH suggested that from a business perspective, goals and priorities need to be determined and that annually each Federation could promote one pilot project and one country for each to start integrated or combined events.

MKI reported that when a joint event was conducted in Spain including WRRC it was not clear what was required to conduct events.

At the moment there are a number of combined events organised by WDSF Member bodies which include most of the "new" disciplines as part of their Federations.

Agreed that basic requirements and guidelines are required for combined events and that the Sports Department should consider providing such assistance for Members before the 2012 WDSF AGM.

JB agrees with LH that a helpful business model does not currently exist and that help is required to understand how to proceed and how the income and costs work.

6. World Artistic Games

CF reported on the progress of these inaugural Games. CF confirmed that there is a number of cities interested in conducting these Games. WDSF made proposals to SportAccord to include all DanceSport disciplines in these games. However, as there



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

are 7 International Federations participating in these Games, WDSF has been restricted to less than 300 athletes. The disciplines to be included from WDSF are Freestyle Standard & Latin, Standard & Latin, Formation Latin, Rock 'n Roll, & Hip Hop. Baton Twirling and Country & Western would be used as demonstration disciplines. Negotiations were continuing in relation to the possibility that the organising City could offer to meet travel and accommodation costs for athletes and officials including for the demonstration disciplines.

As these events will be conducted under IOC rules, all Athletes are required to have the passport of the country they are representing. All athletes are also required to fully comply before and during the Games with all WADA Anti-doping requirements. Each governing IF is responsible to ensure that its athletes comply fully. This applies to demonstration sports as well as medal sports.

SportAccord is currently considering when to conduct the first World Artistic Games. At this time, it is believed that they will probably be held in October or November, 2012 or April, 2013, in Hangzhou, China. The sports considered for inclusion included are Artistic, Acrobatic, Rhythmic and Aerobic Gymnastics, DanceSport, Roller Skating, Synchronised Swimming, Synchronised Diving, Indoor Aeromusicals & Artistic Cycling.

An agreement has also been reached with a large international entertainment group to perform for the public during intervals.

If these Games prove to be a success, then the event will be conducted every two years in this Chinese City.

CF believes that this is a fantastic achievement for Artistic Sports. It should be remembered that the World Artistic Games were an initiative of WDSF.

7. WDSF World DanceSport Federation Games

CF reported on his November meeting in Beijing with the IOC as well as Chinese Government representatives and reported that Christoph Dubi, the IOC Sports Director, and a number of IOC guests attended the inaugural World Freestyle Championships in Beijing.

CF reported that a separate proposal is being pursued with a range of cities to conduct a special "WDSF World DanceSport Games" with up to 730 athletes and 70 officials.

8. World Games

MS reported on progress for the next World Games in Cali, Columbia in July & August, 2013. There has already been a range of information emailed to Members on the Games which will include the Standard, Latin & Salsa disciplines.

The events will be held in a Bullfighting Arena with a capacity of some 20,000 persons. The Arena will be covered with a tent roof to shelter from any unforeseen weather events.

Information will be provided in due course to members on rules and disciplines for the Salsa events.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

MS expects that there will be an amazing atmosphere in the Arena and that this will be a great event for DanceSport.

ME asked who will nominate the couples. MS explained that the World Ranking List and the World Championships would be used to assist in choosing athletes. It is required that there are at least athletes from 3 Continents for each event. The nomination of athletes will be by Members in compliance with WDSF and World Games rules.

MKI expressed her Federation's disappointment that Rock 'n Roll will be excluded from the Games. She also felt that different standards existed in relation to Anti-doping requirements for Rock 'n Roll.

MS explained that the same procedure and requirements are being used for all disciplines.

9. Anti-doping

LH reported on his discussions with WDSF Anti-doping Director Ko de Mooy in relation to developments with Associate Members and Anti-doping compliance. Ko reported that he had no information and no contact from Associate Members. MKI explained that there was email contact but there were problems in dealing with Ko.

LH asked how much money has been allocated by Associate Members to Anti-doping Controls. The responses were as follows:

- UCWDC allocates US\$4500 per year.
- WRRC allocates about €5000 per year to conduct tests.
- WBTF allocates US\$5000 per year.
- Wheelchair reported that the cost is around €500 per test and tests are conducted at a member level.

LH suggested and it was **agreed** that Ko de Mooy be invited to the next Presidium meeting to present a report and explain what is required to develop the Anti-doping policies and statutes of all Associate Members.

It was also **agreed** that all Associate Members would communicate with Ko de Mooy before the June AGM to ask him to explain what is required from Associate Members to meet their Anti-doping obligations.

Ko de Mooy recommended that Anti-doping requirements become part of WDSF Congresses, and Congresses for Associate Members.

It was **agreed** that all top athletes of all disciplines need to be included in Out of Competition Testing.

By June 2012, each Associate Member and the PD, will be asked in agreement with Ko to prepare and implement their own Anti-doping Programs.

10. Codes of Conduct for Athletes and Adjudicators



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

CF reported that WDSF's Swiss lawyers have recommended that the texts of our Athletes' and Adjudicators' Codes of Conduct be amended and that these amendments be presented for approval at the 2012 WDSF AGM.

The draft of the Athletes' Code has been made much clearer so that there can be no doubt that athletes who take part in unregistered competitions will have breached the Code.

TK expressed his concerns that the Athletes' Commission was not consulted or involved in these changes. CF and LH confirmed that this was an oversight that will not occur again but also argued that under the law we have no choice except to make these changes to fulfil our obligations of being an international Sports Federation.

TK asked to receive copies of all letters which are sent ~~out~~ to athletes re: participation in unregistered competitions. CF agreed that this would be done.

11. Can the different Associated Members work more closely with the following WDSF departments/Commissions: Membership Commission, Sports Department, Academy, RLS?

CF wants to help Associate Members to take full advantage of all services provided by WDSF. It is important to know how each Commission or other WDSF body can assist.

JB still does not understand the workings of the Sports Commission and what it does.

SW feels that there is a lack of communication between WDSF's Departments and Commissions, and Associate Members.

MS offered to correspond with Associate Members to help to explain how the Sports Commission and Membership Commission could work to involve all Associate Members.

12. Website

RH reported on behalf of Heidi Goetz and the Communications Commission about how we can help Associate Members through our Web presence and that we need to improve our communications with Members and athletes.

Vision 2012 is explained on our Website. However, RH believes that we need to inject new and improved information. A schedule also needs to be established in order to achieve goals. It was suggested that by the end of April, we should be able to add adequate information on our website from WDSF and all Associate Members.

RH explained that there are obviously growing pains for all organisations that implement significant structural, philosophical and organisational changes.

RH asked each Associate Member to supply by the end of February one central contact who can work with WDSF in order to provide information, videos, news articles and reports from their discipline for the WDSF Website. It was agreed that we need a strong working relationship with all Associate Members to continually improve and strengthen the WDSF Website.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

RH and HG will provide a "toolkit" to show what the Commission requires to improve communications. HG will contact all Associate Members in the next few days to obtain the list of contact persons for each Associate Member.

JB recommended that as part of our communications strategy we should prominently promote a message about ensuring "clean sports" which comply with Anti-doping.

13. Requirement to be represented in at least in 3 Continents

CF explained that all WDSF disciplines must be represented in at least three Continents and that this goal must be achieved in a very short period of time.

14. Are our associated members using the name "WDSF" after their Federation's name?

CF explained that branding is very important and said that all WDSF Associate Members should prominently display their affiliation with WDSF and our sport in their use of letterheads, names and logos.

RH will provide this additional information as part of the toolkit to be supplied to Associate Members.

TT suggested that all Associate Members should take advantage of this excellent branding opportunity.

15. We must not forget that we are non-profit Federations.

As an International Sports Federation, WDSF is in the business of sport but our purpose must always be the best interests of our members and DanceSport.

16. Other Business:

SW made the following suggestions and submissions;

- there needs to be clear and constant communication between WDSF and Associate Members. Since beginning with WDSF she has found that she and WBTF are expected to know many things about WDSF. She emphasized that WBTF joined the VISION 2012 project quite late and that they have only been involved for two years. It became clear that there was a difference of opinion and perception about communication between WDSF and WBTF as WDSF's representatives felt that there had been adequate efforts at communicating with WBTF.
- Anti-doping – SW has not contacted Ko de Mooy or the Anti-doping Commission because she did not understand that Associate Members were expected to liaise actively with him. Again, it became clear that there was a difference of opinion and perception about how Anti-doping liaison should have proceeded between WDSF and WBTF, including WDSF's assumption that WBTF would take more steps to liaise with the AD Commission. Other Presidium Members encouraged her to contact Mr. De Mooy to liaise more closely with him and the Commission. WBTF would like advice about how much money to budget to meet their Anti-doping obligations in WDSF.
- WDSF Member bodies should take steps to welcome the new Associate Members so that they can begin to interact with each other. She asked that each WDSF Member body contact the WBTF Member body in their country.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

- SW still wants WDSF to compromise on the way to incorporate and structure Baton Twirling within WDSF and wants to discuss dividing her federation into two parts to accomplish this.

[Editor's Notes; WBTF informed WDSF during the following week that WBTF will produce the World Baton Twirling Championships in France in August 2012, its Member countries will hold their athlete selections for those Championships in the spring, and that after that time, WBTF will register the participating athletes for Anti-doping. Anti-doping testing will begin at the World Championships with the help of the French Federation of Baton Twirling, which is a member of the French Olympic Committee.

In the week after the Presidium meeting, CF attended a meeting of WBTF in Paris. At this meeting the matters raised by SW were fully discussed and resolved including that the WBTF would not seek to divide the Federation as part of Vision 2012.]

The Presidium **agreed** that WDSF should send Ko de Mooy to each Associate Member, at WDSF's costs, to organise interactive seminars for Associate Members, so that he can explain the requirements of Anti-doping.

The President thanked all Presidium Members for a very productive meeting and expressed his strongly-held belief that we can all continue to work together to build the World DanceSport family.

At this time, 4.30pm, the Associate Members left the meeting and the remaining Presidium members concentrated discussions on developments within the Standard and Latin disciplines.

REQUEST FROM RUSSIAN SPORTING OFFICIALS AND BODIES – This item 8 was brought forward from the Sunday Agenda.

The Presidium received a detailed report from Carlos Freitag about his meeting this week with Russian Government sports officials. Mr Freitag also read letters from three separate Russian Government sports bodies and officials. He commented that in his view there were numerous allegations by various officials and groups about the status and activities of the Russian WDSF Member but that no detailed written proof and evidence against our member body or PD (who is its president) had been provided to him. Mr Freitag confirmed that he had kept PD fully informed of developments as they occurred during the week and that PD had understood that meetings would be held in Moscow with Government Sports officials.

It was unanimously **agreed** that all Presidium Members have the opportunity to ask as many questions as they liked about this situation, and for PD to give answers and explanations about what was occurring. There were no time restrictions or other restrictions placed on PD and he was able to fully discuss the developments in Russia with the Presidium, including making explanations, suggestions and submissions about those matters for more than 1½ hours.

In these serious circumstances, the Presidium conducted free, frank and open discussions about the advice and requests received from the Russian Government sports officials.



The Presidium also unanimously **agreed** that before making any decisions in relation to what was occurring in Russia, the Presidium would consider all information overnight and discuss the issues again tomorrow including obtaining any further information and arguments from PD, and that any decisions would be considered at some later time during the meeting on Sunday.

(Editor's Note: No written information was provided by PD to explain his position or the position of our member RDSF)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M..

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2012

The meeting was reconvened at 9:00 A.M..

WDSF PRESIDIUUM MEETING

Mr Hinder welcomed Members and explained that Mr Freitag was unable to attend the Meeting this morning because his wife became ill and was admitted to hospital during the night, and that Mr. Freitag has remained with her at the hospital.

On a Motion by Mr. Fraser it was **unanimously agreed** that Mr Hinder be appointed as Chair of the meeting until Mr Freitag's return.

1. Pickelmann system – Olav Groehn.

Certification of the Scrutineering systems used for WDSF competitions from 1.9.2012, which will initially be used for Grand Slams.

Discussions relating to a proposed contract with Mr Groehn for the new adjudication system for Freestyle, Formation, Grand Slam. It is hoped that by 2013 the software will be used for more Championships.

MS reported that the software is working well and we now need to finalise an agreement with Mr Groehn. Mr Fraser had prepared a draft contract for consideration.

The Presidium considered WDSF's options and **agreed** that MS should negotiate with Mr. Groehn to purchase all legal rights to the hardware and software.

RH explained that there will be additional costs to integrate the software with other applications and the Presidium also **agreed** to pay those costs subject to review of those costs.

The Presidium also **agreed** that the Managing Committee can finalise an agreement with Mr Groehn based on the above principles.

2. Various projects including the extension of the work of Petr Odstrcil with the RLS until Sept 2012- M. Eichert now in charge.

RLS



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

Michael Eichert provided an explanation of the RLS and how it will work from September 1, 2012, and explained who is on the Committee which is developing this application.

The system is currently being tested and we should have a conclusion to advise Members by the end of February.

The Presidium **agreed** to extend Mr Odstrcil's work until September, 2012.

ID CARDS

The second project on which Mr Eichert reported relates to providing ID cards for athletes. It is anticipated that the cards will cost athletes around €4,00 and be valid for 5 years. The cards are to be integrated with the Scrutineering System.

The Presidium **agreed** to support this initiative.

SUSPENSION OF ATHLETES

Mr Tay explained the history and system relating to the suspension of athletes after dancing in unregistered events. To date, athletes have been suspended or considered for suspension for dancing in several unregistered events including the London Ball, the Imperial Championships, "Freedom to Dance" in Singapore and London, Assen, the Paris event, the UK Championships and the Star Ball.

In each case the first suspension has been for 6 months and a second suspension for 9 months. ST asked what occurs for athletes who continue to breach the Athletes Code of Conduct and dance unregistered events?

The Presidium conducted a detailed discussion about the WDSF suspension policy.

[Editor's Note: After the Presidium meeting the Managing Committee decided to seek legal advice from WDSF's Swiss Lawyers on this matter prior to finalizing the policy.]

Based on that legal advice the President requested an email vote of the Presidium and the Presidium **agreed** that suspensions of athletes for dancing unregistered events would usually be for 6 months for a first offence, 9 months for a second offence, and 24 months for a third offence.

Based on that legal advice the Presidium's policy is now as follows:

For each alleged violation, the athlete should have the opportunity to make representations (as per the standard letter);

*Any suspension ultimately imposed should result from a decision of the Presidium (which could be reached by email under art. 15 of the **WDSF Statutes**);*

We will not ~~to~~ codify or rigidly set the length of sanctions for a first violation or for a repeat offence; it would be preferable to retain some flexibility. In theory the Presidium should consider the specific circumstances of the case and any representations of the athlete before reaching a decision. A completely rigid system could be challenged more easily on the basis of proportionality or right to be heard-



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

Notwithstanding the above, it is not a problem to agree on guidelines or parameters for the sanctions. The sanctions envisaged by the guidelines could be imposed in the absence of exceptional mitigating circumstances.

In terms of the specific length of the sanctions in the guidelines, either of the proposals for the first three sanctions seems acceptable (i.e. either 6/12/24 months or 6/9/12 months), subject to the above considerations.

*A permanent suspension for the fourth sanction could be justified in the absence of exceptional circumstances; it could therefore be included in the guidelines as a maximum (but perhaps not automatic) penalty for a fourth violation. Certainly, it would not be inconsistent per se with the **Statutes** or the **Athletes' Code**. The **Code** states that even a first participation in a non-registered event is ~~stated to be~~ a serious infringement; additionally, the **Code** explicitly provides for the possibility of a permanent suspension in the event of recurring breaches of the **Code**.*

*In light of the above, we should perhaps consider how best to document the guidelines or parameters. This could be a Presidium working document or be explicitly integrated into the **Athletes' Code** (in which case it could be included in the amendments concerning the extension of the suspension to national events).]*

The Presidium also **agreed** that the application of the suspension policy adopted by the Presidium regarding first, second and third offences of participating in unregistered competitions is delegated by the Presidium to the General Secretary.

ST discussed the case of Pavel Pashkov and Daniella Karagach. The Presidium **agreed** that if the athletes signed a letter of undertaking by January 31, 2012 the couple will not be suspended. If the undertaking is not received by that date then the couple will be suspended for 6 months beginning February 1, 2012 under the **Athletes' Code**.

WDSF MEMBER BODIES NOT AGREEING TO TAKE ACTION

When WDSF suspends an athlete from WDSF competitions, what should WDSF do if his or her WDSF Member body does not ~~accept to~~ suspend that athlete for its national competitions?

The Presidium considered correspondence on this question from our Swiss lawyers.

The Presidium discussed the ramifications of suspensions of athletes under the **Athletes' Code** and **agreed** that it is the policy of this Presidium that if the WDSF Presidium suspends an athlete from competition under the **Code**, then the relevant WDSF Member body should suspend that athlete from competing in that country for the same period of time.

The Presidium also **agreed** that this matter would be considered by the AGM in June.

NEW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES AND ADJUDICATORS

ST explained what motions would be required for the next AGM.

LETTER TO RUSSIAN ADJUDICATOR ON YOUTUBE – possible prejudicial conduct.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

The Sports Director informed the Presidium that under the **WDSF Adjudicators' Code of Conduct** he will investigate possible breaches of the **Code** by a Russian Adjudicator.

MS said that due process would be followed in dealing with this matter. The Presidium **agreed** that it was essential to ensure the maintenance of the highest possible ethical standards in accordance with the **Adjudicators' Code of Conduct**.

3. DanceSport England – current situation.

ST explained developments and confirmed that Peter Maxwell is now the President of DSE.

Canada – USA

MS explained that he had been in contact with the USA and Canada in relation to trying to establish a WDSF North American Circuit.

JF reported on the proposal for a North American circuit and Presidium members were referred to the written proposal. The Membership Commission agreed to work on this proposal.

MS reported on the first WDSF Pan American Open Championships with 15 member bodies anticipated to be participating in October, 2012.

The meeting agreed to again alter the Agenda to continue discussions on Item 8 from Saturday afternoon relating to our Russian Member body.

LH and then JF proposed that we start with an open discussion with PD and then ask PD to leave the room to allow the Presidium to privately consider this matter. PD will then be asked to return to the meeting to discuss the situation and consider a course of action.

The Presidium **agreed** to the above procedure. PD abstained from the vote and left the meeting as requested at 12:30pm.

After lengthy discussions, but without making any determination of wrongdoing against PD or RDSF, the Presidium decided as follows:

The Presidium **agreed** that CF write to the Russian Government authorities with whom he met last week in Moscow, inviting them to apply for membership in WDSF under Article 5 of the **WDSF Statutes** if they wish to do so. KU Abstained.

PD was asked to rejoin the meeting at 1:45pm and the Presidium explained the first motion which had been approved. He was then asked for his proposals before dealing with two further motions being considered by the Presidium and he proposed the following Motion:

"The WDSF Presidium thoroughly discussed the report of Carlos Freitag, WDSF President about his talks in Moscow with representatives of Russian Ministry on Sports and Russian NOC. As well as the report of Pavel Dorokhov, President of RDSF – WDSF member in Russia on situation in and around RDSF.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

The WDSF takes note that the State recognition in the form of Accreditation of RDSF with the Russian Ministry on Sports has been suspended for 90 days on December 23, 2012 and that the reasons of the suspension were disclosed to Carlos Freitag in Moscow.

The WDSF encourages the RDSF to receive official letter from the Russian Ministry on Sports enumerating defects and shortcomings in its activity in order to diminish them until the end of the suspension of the recognition in March. The WDSF will welcome all other steps in retaining the RDSF State Recognition.

The WDSF take notice that the RDSF will postpone National Championships and WDSF Open events scheduled for January – first half of February, 16th, 2012.

The WDSF welcomes the readiness of the Russian Committee of Non-Olympic Sports to assist in organizing of the Russian National Championships and WDSF Open events scheduled for February – March 2012, as well as WDSF Championships and Cups scheduled for March-April 2012 provided that its organisers and adjudicators panels appointed subsequently by RDSF and WDSF will be safeguarded.

The WDSF will closely and constantly monitor the development of the situation in Russia in coming weeks.

The WDSF will also approach Mr Ron Froelich in order to help.”

PD explained that he was happy for changes to be made to his proposed motion on this matter.

It was explained to PD that the Presidium would consider his Motion, but that the Presidium preferred to consider adopting one of the following two motions:

Proposal A

Under Article 14.1(d) of the **Statutes**, the Presidium **resolves** that PD not participate in any discussions or votes regarding the membership of the Russian DanceSport Federation in WDSF until further decision of the Presidium.

Proposal B

Under Article 14.1(d) of the **Statutes**, the Presidium **resolves** that PD's privileges as a WDSF Presidium member be suspended until further decision of the Presidium.

After more discussions between the Presidium and PD, PD agreed that he had the fullest opportunity to present his position to the Presidium.

PD confirmed that he was prepared to support Proposal A.

PD was then again asked to leave the meeting. After further serious discussions, the Presidium did not pass Proposal A, but **passed** Proposal B.

Without having access to hard evidence, and using the principle that a person is innocent until proven guilty, the Presidium made no decision against PD or RDSF, but given the involvement of a coordinated approach from Russian Government Sports bodies, it was decided that PD must be asked to stand aside to provide an opportunity to fully consider any and all information which would be received in coming weeks.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

At Mr Hinder's request, it was unanimously **agreed** that each Member of the Presidium had been able to discuss this matter in detail and that Pavel Dorokhov was given every opportunity to present his position. The voting process was undertaken with the unanimous agreement of the entire Presidium.

Mr Hinder requested that all Presidium Members should remain in the meeting room while PD was asked to return to hear the decision. Mr Hinder left the meeting to try to find PD, without success. Mr Hinder also tried to telephone PD on his mobile telephone but there was no answer. Mr Hinder expressed his great disappointment that PD could not be contacted to personally be informed of the decision in front of the entire Presidium.

Mr Freitag rejoined the meeting at 3:00pm and read the letters provided by the Russian Authorities. These were the same letters which he had discussed with the full Presidium on late Saturday afternoon.

As PD was unable to return, the meeting was adjourned for lunch at 3.15pm

The meeting reconvened at 3:45, CF resumed the Chair and PD returned briefly to say goodbye to colleagues and then left the meeting.

CF expressed his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting and thanked Presidium Members for their best wishes for his wife's speedy recovery. CF also explained that he would need to return to the hospital in the next hour.

4. Salsa and Hip Hop in DanceSport – WDSF.

Agreement with IDO – this matter was adjourned.

5. Current situation with WDSF PD.

AM confirmed that WDSF PD Members and the numbers of PD athletes were continuing to grow and that WDSF's providing €50,000 in prize money would continue to encourage athletes to join.

Korea Hyundai Cup

ST explained the possible future of this event. The inaugural event was an outstanding success. Some 8000 persons over two days witnessed DanceSport as presented by our top athletes.

A second Korea Hyundai Cup event will be held probably in July, 2012.

6. Athletes Commission – discussions on structure

Mr Tay reported on the project to get email addresses of athletes. It is proposed to send information by email to athletes on a timely basis.

Mr Tay left the meeting to catch his flight at 3:00 P.M..

TK reported on Athletes Commission election developments to date. TK confirmed that in Moscow, Ashli Williamson was elected to represent the European region.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

It was **agreed** that the Athletes Commission will recommend a Youth representative to be appointed by the Presidium.

CF agreed that he was happy for Mr Tay to provide a list to TK of the top 100 votes to determine which athletes came from different regions.

As part of the operating policy for the Athletes Commission, the Presidium **agreed** that the Senior representative of the Athletes Commission to the Presidium will be elected from the World Championships.

The Presidium **agreed** that the Operating Policies for the Athletes Commission need to be amended to reflect these changes.

Mr Freitag left the meeting to go to hospital to visit his wife at 4:20 and Mr Hinder resumed the chair until 5:30 when the meeting agreed that Mr Sietas assumed the Chair to the close of the meeting.

7. Congress – Academy, workshops. Program ready for 2012.... and in preparation for 2013.

New DanceSport technique books... Standard and Latin ... and organizing further Academy workshops. – **this item was adjourned**

8. Pavel Dorokhov report on current situation in Russia and connection to the NOC. Already discussed.

9. European Commission. This item was adjourned as PD had already left the meeting after his suspension as a Presidium Member.

10. Financial situation year 2011 and year 2012

TT advised that although overall income had increased for the 2011 year, competition fees had leveled off. TT also confirmed that savings were again made in 2011 expenditures for WDSF, and that we should produce a surplus in excess of CHF300,000. The final official results would not be known until after the audit for the 2011 year which should be completed in early May.

Changes to **WDSF Financial Regulations** – TT requested Presidium members to provide proposed changes by February 26, 2012 for the 2012 AGM. The following possible changes had already been raised by members:

- Annual Chairmen license fees of CHF50.
- Under 21 World Latin, Standard and Ten Dance Championships CHF2000 each.
- World Senior II Open Latin CHF200.
- Senior I Open Ten Dance CHF200.
- 4.2.7 International Teams Matches in Standard and Latin.

TT provided an updated Debtor's list to Presidium Members dated January 19, 2012. Overall, the level of Debtors was not excessive.

11. Membership Commission ... report on Latin America and Africa.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

MS reported that 15 countries are expected to participate in the inaugural WDSF Pan American Open DanceSport Championships in the Dominican Republic on October 1 to 3, 2012.

MS also confirmed that Congresses are continuing to be conducted in South America.

This year the Membership Commission will be sending a German and WDSF World Champion to South America for 12 months to conduct classes and courses. We are also sending an additional three trainers to these Latin American countries to assist in the development of DanceSport.

MS would like to develop a similar structure to assist African countries.

12. Working Group meeting in April 2012.

LH reported that it was decided to reduce the size of the Strategy Group to make it as efficient and productive as possible. LH also confirmed that the next meeting of the Strategy Group will be on April 14th before the MC meeting on April 15th.

LH recommended to the Presidium that the Strategy Group this year be made up of 3 Presidium Members -- LH, CF and ST -- and 3 outside Advisers: Jean-Laurent Bourquin (former Senior Executive in the IOC Sports Department), Roland Hilfiker and Richard Bunn.

The Presidium **agreed** to all the appointments to the Strategy Group.

13. Sports affairs

MS reported on the first meeting of the Sports Commission under the new structure. It is now possible to delegate more work to Commission members.

MS advised that a draft revision of the **WDSF Competition Rules** will be prepared by Michael Eichert.

MS confirmed that ME, MS and ST were working together to ensure that athletes only compete in registered events.

MS confirmed that new rules were being developed for Freestyle events.

MS confirmed that 11 WDSF Adjudicator Congresses are scheduled for 2012.

14. Bidding for Grand Slam and Finals

LH confirmed that all the information for the Grand Slams has been provided to all Presidium members.

RB confirmed that the 5 Grand Slams plus the organiser for the Finals for the next five years have been selected. A tender document will be sent to potential Rights bidders for this new project. A decision about who to appoint should be made by the beginning of April, 2012. The successful bidder will be encouraged to find appropriate sponsorship for this new project.

MS believed that we will need television to attract good sponsors.

LH commented that this is a good development for DanceSport.

Bidding for WDSF Events



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

RB is concerned that we maintain control over the bidding procedures for WDSF competitions. LH explained that we need to develop complete systems and procedures to improve our processes.

The Presidium **agreed** that RB will travel to each IEC competition to supervise compliance with TV requirements.

RB explained that there was a request from DTV to permit streaming to a National German website. RB confirmed that WDSF could agree to such a request based on a number of conditions.

15. 2013 WDSF World Championships.

MS confirmed that applications for events in 2013 will be circulated in the next week to Presidium Members for decision.

16. 2012 WDSF AGM Communication to members

ST confirmed that DTV will pay for Presidium transport and accommodation for 11 persons from the Thursday to Monday.

DTV expects WDSF to pay for all meeting rooms, lunches and coffees. The basic cost to WDSF is €59 per person per day. A premium package would cost €69 per person per day. The meeting room for the Forum on Saturday will cost WDSF €3,250. The total cost for the AGM on Sunday is estimated to be €10,350. No lunch will be served on Saturday because the WDSF Forum does not begin until after lunchtime.

DTV will pay for one dinner and transportation to and from the dinner for Delegates.

17. 2013 WDSF AGM

The candidates for the 2013 AGM are St Petersburg, Shanghai, Toulouse, San Marino, Bogota & Sudak. The Presidium had been provided with details of all bids.

The Presidium **agreed** to defer the decision on the 2013 AGM until the 2012 AGM.

LH & RB left at 5:30 P.M. to catch their flights.

18. World Artistic Games, WDSF World DanceSport Games, World Games, International World Masters Games, 2014 Asian Games, 2013 Asian Youth Games, 2013 Asian Indoor Games. – this item was only briefly discussed.

19. How to make our WDSF Website easier to use?

RH, JC and HG made a PowerPoint presentation on the history of our Communications Strategy and how this could be improved in future.

The Presidium congratulated the team on their presentation of developments and the outstanding success with WDSF's Communication Strategy.

The team offered to present a proposal to allow viewing from mobile devices.

It was also agreed to consider providing lectures and Congresses online.



Recognised by the IOC - Member SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA

20. Website for other Associate Members and PD? ROLAND. – this item was discussed with Associate Members on Saturday.

21. Promotional material was distributed by HG.

22. Award nomination 2012.

ST provided a list of the nominees from members to the Presidium.

After consideration of the applicants, the MC proposed Helmut Roland from Germany to receive the award.

The Presidium **agreed** to the recommendation from the MC.

23. CF confirmed that WDSF had appointed a second staff member in our Barcelona office – Monica.

24. Replacement for Ferruccio Galvagno. This item was deferred due to the illness of CF's wife.

25. Replacement for Daniele Tondon. This item was deferred due to the illness of CF's wife.

Mr. Sietas thanked Members for their hard work and determination during an unusually difficult Presidium Meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M..

CARLOS FREITAG

WDSF PRESIDENT

MINUTES TAKEN BY TONY TILENNI, WDSF TREASURER