

**Minutes of 62nd Meeting of Region EAME Cable Council
held at Hawaii Grand Hotel, Cyprus on 9th/10th November, 2007**

Present – Marie Anne Persoons (MAP)
Nicky Caine (NCC)
Jurgen Pitz (JP)
Maoz Tal (MT)
Mikhael Padliak (MP)

Arrived later Martin Kocur (MK)

Apologies Joulia Meyer Gromyko (JMG) - family
Jean Yves Parpette (JYP) - work

Before the Council meeting started MAP, JP, MT, and NCC welcomed Monica Liatiri and her colleague from the Cyprus Tourism Planning Office together with Martin Potts & Shannon who are hoping to build a Cable Tow in Cyprus. A presentation from EAME Cable Council was shown to help try and promote Cable in Cyprus and the plans for the proposed site were discussed. Alain Amade, Sid Adriaensen and Dominique Lakens Douwes also then joined the meeting together with Mr Kokinos from Cyprus Waterski Federation. There was very positive feedback from all sides and the Cable project will have the support of Cyprus Water Ski Federation.

The EAME Cable Council Meeting then commenced and the minutes of the 61st meeting in Heidelberg were agreed and duly signed by MAP and NCC

Points arising when reviewing the minutes of the previous meeting

As the special competition in memorial of Harry de Laat could not take place at the EAME Age Category Championships, the provided memorial cup was given to the best youngest overall skier in Under 15 (Dauphin) either Boys or Girls and was awarded to Hanna Straltshova from Belorussia.

It was noted that there now was another twinskate type of ski that has been designed by HO. Publicity for this was seen on different places.

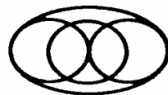
MP had no problems with visas this year however it still took a lot of extra effort and work as for example CONI had only issued visas for 3 months, whereas a full season is longer. MP also mentioned that there may be possible visa problems for entry into United Kingdom as it may require personal attendance at the embassy for the visas to be issued.

JP is to look at results printed on website as at the moment the trick results for the age categories are by error posted as jump results !! Also the overall scores at the competition in Belarus, the Belarus-Poland-Russia competition are not correct.
JP will correct this.

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Competitions

Grand Prix of Cable results are all posted on the on website – thanks for everyone's cooperation!! This season there was one more site in Asten, Austria who had hosted a competition.

Asten have confirmed that next year they will hold a GP competition again and it is hoped that Schloss Dankern may also hold a GP event. However, there maybe not be a competition at Havirov in the next year as the cable is in very bad condition and there are money problems. We need to remind all the sites that entry forms need to be sent before the Congress. Last year there were 4 missing by Congress - Asten, Lublin, Kosice and Israel however it was noted that due to a misunderstanding it was agreed for the 2007 season that no fines would be levied. Entry forms need to be sent to the Cableski Council President by 15th January, 2008 and any cancellation before 1st March there is a fine of 100 euros.

Reports - Finals in Kosice, good organisation and good competition but windy. Asten organised very well with good weather at weekend but the weather had been bad during week. There were 72 skiers from 10 countries. Good results

EAME age Categories were very well organised but there were problems with official radios and the trick judging tower was not high enough They had a follow up meeting which is very positive and shows that they are trying to improve. It was also very good that the official hotel was within walking distance of the site. It was a very successful competition with some very good results and the Junior Under 15 slalom was particularly exciting.

It was agreed that the new age categories of Junior Under 15 and Junior Under 19 had gone well. However, some countries had queried why there was a difference with age categories from those in Tournament. The Cableksi Council believes that we are a completely different discipline and thus not necessarily have to follow Tournament in this.

EAME Open in Twistesee - large crowds which is very encouraging for the sport. There was a problem with no safety boat during official training which maybe was because to hire them is very expensive. Also they were late arriving for the competition. The rescue crew are used to drowning people not injured ones and therefore maybe are not the right people for rescue during a competition as they have no knowledge of the sport. However they are the only people with the correct equipment. In future it is recommended that they have an experienced person on board. Also because they were attached to jury tower there was a delay in getting to skier. The ideal location to position the rescue boat should be in the middle of the lake but not in the eyesight of the skier. The Safety officer needs to be on site during official training and the entirety of the competition as it is a very important position. Too often people only look at this position as just a name on paper, but the responsibility is actually much larger.

The rescue boat should be in attendance during all three events as dangerous falls can also happen in tricks and slalom.

The competition in Belarus went very well with officials from Germany, The Netherlands etc and everybody was happy with organisation. They are hoping to run in 2008 the Belarus Open again.

Last competition of the year is Israeli Nationals (a 4 event competition). There were 5000 spectators watching, Corona were the sponsors, there was loud music, a big tent and a great atmosphere. Juergen has not published the results on the web yet. Moshe jumped 56.2m and Nadav scored 3 @ 10.75. Major of Tel Aviv talked about 2010 Worlds which, if they are in Israel they should be in Tel Aviv with his full support.

It was an excellent season but there are still not enough competitions. The aim is to have still more different countries involved with the Grand Prix of Cable.

2008 Competitions

The Age Categories Championships will be held on 29/31 August and Final of GP will also be in Lublin the weekend before. It has been confirmed that Lublin have installed a direct drive.

There are only going to be small changes on Grand Prix rules and so far we will have the same stops as in 2007, with hopefully an extra stop in Schloss-Dankern.

Other competitions - apart from Belarus and the GP events there will be Israeli National Open 4 event will be on 31st Oct/ 1st November and the slalom event will be ranking list.

2008 is a Worlds year so there will be no EAME "Open" Championships.

Standings List/Homologation Dossiers

There have been problems compiling the standings list where there were different age National competitions being held on same weekend. The results are missing from Minsk.

Discussion whether there should be a separate rankings list for Age Categories. The ranking lists need to be looked at as Heidi had real problems. Particularly the Age Categories are causing trouble with the start speed at 22kph. Overall needs looking at. If agreed that there should be separate ranking list and minimum scores, the total number of people on the list would be substantially less. We then need to look at the % for getting into the Open "titled event" competitions as individuals.

Two new Officials have passed their exams – Elena Kunert as Judge 1 and Natalia Ruzena as International Calculator.

Athlete of the Year

Three Men were put forward for consideration :

Moshe Tzdaka - as one of the most improved Cable skier in 2007. He broke his own personal records in all three events. He jumped an extra 8m in season, improved his tricks and passed 2 extra rope lengths in Slalom. It was in Silver Medal place in Men's Overall and Bronze in Men's Slalom at EAME Open. He also came 2nd in the rankings list.

Mikita Papakul – Gold in Men's Overall and Tricks at EAME Open & 1st in tricks and 3rd in Overall in the rankings list.

Manfred Hintringer – Silver in Jump at EAME "Open" (after a tie-break in the final) and Gold in Senior Men's Jump and 1st in the rankings list.

It was agreed after discussion that Moshe should be nominated.

In the Ladies section it was agreed to put forward:

Olga Pavlova - In 4 competitions she tricked over 10000 points, amazing consistency. In EAME she achieved Open Silver in Ladies Overall and Bronze in Ladies Slalom. In rankings List she was 1st Overall, Slalom and Tricks and 3rd in Jump.

MAP will add nominated Cable Skiers of Year to her yearly report.

Records review

JMG had agreed that some of her records applied for should not have been given and she suggested in future that if any records are turned down that the skier can see the application so that they know why the record was not given.

At Record Capability events there has to be video. If the system is set up so that the passes can be reviewed immediately, it would be a great help on getting the scores more correct.

Budget

Any Committee members that have incurred any expenses need to submit them as soon as possible to NCC. JP will forward his website costs to NCC.

Elections

JYP will not stand for re-election. Thanks to be forwarded to him for all his very good work on the brochure.

MK advised that he was having difficulty being supported by his federation to go to meetings and that he also had problems with getting time off from work to attend (MK has subsequently advised he will not stand for re-election). Maybe Joost de Leyer would be interested and he will be contacted to see if he is prepared to stand. MK would also contact Michal Mos to see if he is interested to become a member.

Rules

These were discussed in great detail and recommendations had been put forward in writing from both MP and JMG.

Hereby a brief overview of the discussions held :

It was confirmed that Cable rules are now different from those of Tournament. JP is working to have one Cable rule book to incorporate World Rules and EAME Additional rules. Should the other regions draw up their own Additional rules then these would be included. JP will circulate the "new" rule book to all members of Council for comments.

2.3

Discussion on the impact of a different Ranking list to the qualifications for Non Team Skiers in top 10% of Worlds rankings and top 5% of EAME. Qualifications valid for 2 years but not the present season as it would put too much pressure for an up to date rankings list to be raised. People who shorten at 55 should be on a separate list for Junior/Seniors so they can compare their scores against skiers of the same age. In fact there would be 4 different

schedules (Junior Under 15, Junior Under 19, Seniors and then everyone together but on that list the highest place someone shortening at 55 would be shown as is 6 @55. However, we do need to be careful if a “senior” enters an open competition (shortening at 58kph) that the scores do not go through to senior’s standings list. As there will be no changes for the 2007 Ranking list, no rule change has been decided at present.

Age categories – The question was raised again to lower the slalom speed, and this time also to increase the ramp height in jumping for senior women. The council however still finds it too early to make these changes and women to continue jumping at 54kph and after discussion it was decided to leave Women slalom shortening at 55.

Discussed whether Junior under 19 girls should be allowed to jump at 1.65 with maybe the proviso that they had already jumped 35m in ranking competition but after feedback from skiers/federation and looking at the present Ranking list results it was not thought by the majority of the council members to be a good idea.

Number of skiers qualifying for the finals

Leave Team and Non Team in as it explains what actually happens. Change to 6 in finals for 11-14 competitors, change to 8 in final for 15-19, change to 10 for 20-24 and change to 12 for 25 or more.

The rule that rules what to do if there is a tie for the last place into the finals, will be changed as follows. If 2 tied skiers they both go into Finals however if there are more than 2 there will be a run-off

As there were problems with time time allowance for unofficial familiarisation, some ruling is needed here also.

Familiarisation – all teams must be allowed equal opportunity for unofficial training but there will be a deadline date to submit request and then the organiser will allocate times and publish them.

Overall Calculation – it was discussed whether we had to look into a new key for the tricks score into the overall calculation as the scores are higher now with the new trick points. When further checked the overall scores are not that different between disciplines so no changes believed needed.

There was a suggestion to allow a warm up pass in case a re-ride has to be taken after some delay. As in Cable, skiers are used to wait between runs, no warm up pass is felt to be given,

Installation – Controlling speeds now can be accurate so tolerances should not be changed. The average speed is now possible to be checked but the limiting factor is the way of checking the speed. Until we find a system that can control the speed more accurately the speed tolerances will be kept. .

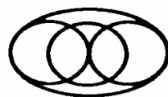
Bibs – It is clear that if a bib is not worn the competitor will be disqualified for that event and shall score no points for that run. Also they must wear the correct number.

Spectra ropes – no change to rule

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Competition area - the definitions for each discipline is at present described with the rules of the discipline, it is felt that it should be in the same place within the rules, Rule 10.1 states that the competition area is defined as being between the deflection pulleys before and after the slalom, trick and jump course. This could be the place to add this.

JP will work out the wording.

Jump – it should be possible to stop the machine after the pulley in cases where the skiers are in a dangerous position. Stopping the machine should be the responsibility of the team captain or Technical Officer and this will be put in rule 11.7 Also to be published in 11.7 - If the jump score has not been announced then the skier may request to wait before his next jump. Jump distances should be communicated after each scoring jump.

11.11 – during jump skiers must wear jacket and helmet and if not they will be disqualified If a skiers falls off before he reaches the competition area he will be on results but to achieve overall points he needs to have entered the competition area, so reaching the competition area, it will be counted as a start but the skier will not receive overall points (in 11.15 take out “overall” points from the last sentence).

Scoring Slalom – if possible the use of video should be encouraged more

Slalom Jury Tower needs if possible to be higher so amend to read 2-3 meters. It is felt that more attention should be paid to the jury tower. Exact position of jury tower – location and height is based on the distance from the pulleys. Good wording to put this in the rules still has to be found.

Trick timing – take out wording in 13.5a regarding the first movement to the trick. Wrapping the line does not count. Timing the trick pass trick needs to be properly defined (Rule from Tournament should be used as guidance for the wording) and the use of a video timing system should become mandatory.

If Chief Judge believes that a trick score is incorrect he can ask his judges to go to video review and look at the trick under query. Also any judge/calculator is entitled to ask for review if they are unhappy with the result.

13.13/13.15 discussion whether submitted trick lists are needed/beneficial and it was believed at present that they are. Skiers who fall early in their trick run can continue if they wish so where they left off in their next pass. However, if they do the complete pass again they will not score any points for tricks done already in their previous pass. Before changing the submitted trick list, we will wait to see some more experience from Tournament.

Skiers are allowed to complete as many flips as they want. However if a trick is not clear and flips are not in a vertical plane in the air there will be no credit.

540/720 tricks to be discussed at the seminar.

Officials – to be changed to only 3? At Normal level homologation it is possible to have only 3 but at Record Capability even with a video it was thought that it may cause problems so leave at 5. It was agreed that we need to work on video review to get correct results posted as soon as possible.

It was agreed that access to the rules on the web would be only available to Committee (World/EAME) but discussion is believed to be beneficial and the rules then to be finalised by committee.

Short piece of rope attached during short line slalom to be able to hand out the rope - no change to this at present.

The Starting area needs to be less chaotic but this depends on location. Everybody should be entitled to same conditions.

Amendment to the tricks that need to be read for judging qualifications – for 1st Class Judge now 4000 in one run and for 2nd Class Judge 2500.

Records – There are only records in “Open” at the moment but starting Junior/Senior records are a possibility. These would be the records set at the EAME Age category Championships to be sure the records were set under the technical conditions as ruled for the specific age category. As a start MAP to look at the last few years results. Senior Championships have been going for 3 years starting in Tel Aviv and MAP to also look at best performances in Seniors.

There will be no change to homologation levels.

Voting Powers

New voting powers 2007 and Cable will have 34 votes in total

4 years Athlete in EAME - 1 vote

4 year Official EAME - 1 vote

4 year organised an homologated competition - 1 vote

Promotion

Poland have discussed a new site, hopefully in Warsaw, and they have requested information.

The Cable Brochure needs to be changed to show the optimum length should be 300m long. It was agreed that it would be possible for the brochure to be translated into German. There were comments that many of the pictures showed Cable Wakeboard but the problem was we did not have good quality pictures of Cable 3 event.

Alain, Sid and Dominique then joined the meeting. There was a discussion regarding the location of the November meetings and an explanation for why the meeting was this year held in Cyprus. It has already achieved great promotion of the sport as a whole and good contacts had been made.

There was further discussion regarding the brochure which all agreed had gone down very well. It is hoped that it will be possible to put brochure on the web. Total cost has been at the moment about 16000 euros of which 1/3 is to be paid by IWSF. The Cable brochure has achieved what we wished. It was felt that it had been money well spent.

Cable Wakeboard Worlds to be held in Ukraine is being worked on but there are problems with their Federation. It is also possible that they may be able to host a Cable 3 event there as well in the future.

Dominique gave Cable their budget and we confirmed that we need to put through costs for Juergen.

There being no other business to discuss with the EAME Office, Alain, Sid and Dominique left the meeting.

The subject of encouraging more youth and different formats discussion to be delayed to next meeting.

World Championships

The World contract should be signed in next couple of weeks. London is easy to reach and flights are cheap and it will be stated in the bulletin that everyone needs to fly to Heathrow. At the moment the organisers are looking for a hotel but camping will also be offered. Breakfast will be available at Princes which is cheaper than at the hotel.

There were some small changes to obligations for Cable 3 event Worlds in London September 2008, that need to be discussed with Kuno. There is a possibility that the EB meeting could be held in London during the Worlds.

Officials to be selected by World Council and many names were put forward. In the IWSF statutes it states that an official should not be appointed to 2 successive championships but this is sometime difficult to adhere to in the smaller disciplines. We will opt for high quality officials first and only look at the number of worlds they have done already after that.

The competition will be from 11/13th September (Thursday until Saturday) and everyone can then go home on Sunday. There will be unofficial training offered on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Skier Meetings

At the Skiers meeting at Juniors no one turned up!! At the meeting at the Open, most of the items that were raised, we have discussed further today. Joulia was re-elected as EAME Skiers' representative.

Council are to ask Stuart Marston (World Skiers' representative) to come to March meeting/Seminar but his attendance will depend on his time. Ulf Licht and Stuart now have a page on "Facebook" and have made a group for Cable 3 event discussions.

Seminar 2008

The proposal is either Krakov or Warsaw. It is believed that transport into Warsaw would be much easier, The weekend prices quoted are from Friday night until Sunday Prefer 28/30 March. We would like to ask Bennie again to come with his "rig" and MAP will send email. Bennie probably going to Poland so if we can organise him to be there at the same time on federation business then we can split the costs.

For this year as well there should be a major session with Bennie's "rig". The other main focus should be on flips/pre turns, 540 and 720 turns, JP to try and get demonstration footage. Another session on setting up video jump system and we can ask Michael Mos whether he can host a video trick timing session

Maoz to do TO session and maybe we should ask someone to do a homologation session. As there is a possibility for people to take exams at least 2 rooms will be needed.

The Tournament Coaching Seminar is also being held, in Cyprus, on 29/30 March but believed that it will not be a problem.

Budget

Every council gets 3000 euros. Cable Wakeboard queried Cash Prize fee 10% of prize money with maximum of 2500 euros Byelaw 4.5.2 and as a result the council budgets allowances were reviewed.

MAP to query where the late entry fee from Alfsee has gone as it does appear to be credited to our budget.

The Council needs to look into how judges are reimbursed to try and make it fairer. Maximum budget 1000 euros maybe on mileage basis say 10 euros per 100km but with the maximum of 150 euros per trip. Confirmed that the Council representative is also included in officials and MAP will look into this.

A.O.B.

We must try and avoid any clash of Title events and also try and avoid having competitions "back to back", without a free weekend in between, as it was last season and caused many problems.

Dubna wants to organise a Tournament World Championships and MP showed prospective plans which could be very exciting for both Tournament and Cable 3 event. If skiers fly to Moscow and then collection transport will be needed. Hopefully this site will be built by June 2009

MAP thanked everybody for their input and closed the meeting at 6.25hr.
Original text in English

Nicky Caine
Cable Council Secretary

Marie-Anne Persoons
Cable Council President