

World Karate Federation

Congress Minutes

Paris, France, 20th of November 2012

Present: - A. Espinós President
 Executive Committee (see list of EC meeting minutes)
 Representatives from NFs

1. Registration of delegates and appointment of Secretary

The WKF General Secretary, Mr. George Yerolimpos, conducted the registration of delegates. opening of the congress there were countries registered.

Mr. Gunnar Nordahl was appointed Secretary of the Congress.

2. Roll Call

A roll call was taken of representatives present and registered 102 National Federations represented in this Congress.

3. Opening of the congress and President's Report

The Congress was addressed by the WKF President, Mr. Antonio Espinos. A moment of silence was observed in memory of the WKF Honorary President, Mr. Jacques Delcourt, who passed away one year ago. Mr. Delcourt led the WKF through its formative years and will go down in history as the father of international sport karate.

The President expressed his gratitude for the French federation for hosting this very important event and invited the French NF President Mr. Francis Didier to the podium to address the Congress.

Mr. Didier welcomed the Congress and thanked the President, the WKF EC and all NFs present for the confidence that the WKF has put in the hands of the French Federation.

Rob Swartjes was formally given his 9th Dan diploma, awarded in 2010, for his lifetime of dedication to karate-do. Mr. Swartjes expressed his gratitude and pleasure in sharing the WKFs idea of karate as a martial art and sport.

The President gave his report thanking the EC, commission members and NFs for their contribution to world karate making this the largest world championships ever with plus 115 countries present. The President highlighted the importance of NFs to be vigilant in reacting to dissident organizations that typically will be extra active in trying to find recognition every time the question of Olympic participation comes up.

All NFs are the representatives of WKF in their respective countries and must be the first line of defense of our common Olympic aspirations. It is important that NFs seek the support of the WKF whenever they find them in situations where they feel their obstacles require such support to guard the interest of the karate community.

The WKF has enjoyed continued growth and development over the last year. We have just approved new Kata Rules. The President extended his thanks to the Sport Commissioner, Mr. Didier and Vice President Nordahl for their leading role in the working group. We have also developed an Entourage Commission.

Also the working group for Rules has turned in a Permanent Commission. We have also developed a new set of rules for coaches. We also have a disadvantaged NF program for these Championships encompassing 30 countries to promote the participation of more countries enabling two participants from these Federations of which one must be an athlete. We have also undertaken experiments with use of video for medals finals and the use of colored protest cards for use by coaches. Since 2010, we have in the Senior World Championships our own TV production with broadcast live to 120 countries.

WKF approved brands have risen from 5 to 8 in the period. New tatami specifications have been developed.

New micro site for WKF approved items. Global sponsor Xerox. The logo has now been unified for Continental Federations.

New Media and Press Director appointed for the third term of 2012.

On the 19th of December WKF will present Karate to the IOC Program Commission.

February of next year the IOC Executive Board will decide the core either 25 or 26 core sports. If it is 26 no new sports. If the core will be 25, there will be one opening. There will then be 8 candidates including the sport taken out.

In May 2013 the IOC Executive Board will have the WKF presentation. Then they will then submit their recommendation to IOC Session in September 2013.

The Olympic campaign: The K day 7th of September. Approximately 1 million participants, 286 519 on face book, 500 cities of 73 national federations involved.

The president showed the draft presentation intended for the IOC Program Commission on the 19th of December.

4. Report of the General Secretary

The General Secretary, Mr. George Yerolimpos gave his report, highlighting the progress in the competition program and the evolution of the organizations support structures.

- The continental logos are now all coordinated to reflect the basic WKF design.
- Introduction of WKF Approved Competition of open competitions: 2 so far.
- WKF approved Competitions for karate style tournaments: 3 so far.
- 5th Youth Cup has been upgraded to an official WKF karate1- world cup event.

- ADAMS. Out of competition testing: WKF fully compliant with WADA as only IF outside Olympic program.
- 2013 Karate 1 Calendar. From 3 to 11 events 8 premier liege and 3 World Cups.
- Use of video for medal bouts.
- WKF is present in social media. (face book / twitter / YouTube)
- New layout of WKF website.
- The K is on the way was presented in Quebec during SportAccord.
- WKF ranking system.
- New ID card system with smart chips followed by a partnership process with the NFs.

5. Adoption of Minutes

The EC Minutes of Belgrade and Melaka were unanimously approved by the Congress.

6. Report of the Sports Commission

Javier Escalante presented the report of the Sports Commission. Officials that does not pass have the opportunity to become World Cup judge and referee. One World Cup and one Premiere League event per year to pass. Only 6 of 42 took the opportunity. In kata 2 of 16 used the opportunity. New Kumite Rules version 7.1 approved in Melaka and operational from 1.1.2012 is offering very good results. Clear reduction of injuries and protests. The working group has then revised the kata rules and these were passed yesterday by the EC for implementation 1.1.2013. WKF has also adopted a new coach accreditation system .

The WKF Sports Commission's report was unanimously approved by the Congress.

7. The Treasurer's report

The WKF Treasurer, Mr. Mike Dinsdale, presented the financial report to the Congress, as well as the auditor's report for the years 2010 and 2011. The surplus for 2011 had significantly increased from 2010.

The 2010 and 2011 accounts were unanimously approved.
The budgets for 2013 and 2014 were unanimously approved.

8. Ratification of EC approved changes in the WKF Statutes.

The proposed changes were unanimously approved.

9. Membership issues

- Monaco was unanimously accepted as full member.
- Chad was unanimously accepted as full member
- Karate South Africa was unanimously accepted as provisional member for a period of two years.

10. Future World Championships

The following future World Championships were presented to the Congress:

2013 Junior and Cadet Championships, Guadalajara, Spain, was presented by the Spanish Federation (update)

2014 Senior Championships, Bremen, Germany. (update) presented by the German Karate Federation.

2015 Junior and Cadet Championships, Jakarta, Indonesia, presented by FORKI.

2016 Senior Karate Championships, Linz, Austria, presented by the Austrian Karate Federation.

Pending the result of the potential inclusion in the Olympic program, no new application beyond 2016 was brought forward.

11. AOCB

No other business being brought forward, the President closed the Congress..

12. Next Congress

Next Congress will be under the 2014 event in Bremen



ANTONIO ESPINOS ORTUETA
WKF PRESIDENT