

# EUROPEAN DODGEBALL FEDERATION

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## EDBF Congress 2015 - Minutes

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2015, 7:00 p.m.

University of Sport, Vienna, Austria

1. Introductions
  - a. Council Members – Nick Pinnock (Pres.), Daniel Nedelcu (VP) & Andrea Robbia (VP).
  - b. Apologies – Tom Hickson (VP), Bernard Thomas (VP) & Frank Kribbel (Germany), joining via Skype. Germany joined EDBF on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August.
2. Before the main meeting started, Austria asked for feedback on the first day of Euros.
  - a. Nick Pinnock: some nations concerned that Austrian referees were officiating matches in which Austria were playing.
  - b. Richard Carr: suggested this was due to logistical reasons.
  - c. Daniel Nedelcu: suggested that the Head Referee should not be Austrian, when Austria played. National representatives were in agreement with this and Austrian representatives said this was possible and would be the case for the play-offs.
  - d. Vincent Renaud: asked about the rules for catching when a player jumps and then gets hit before landing. NP said according to the rules this is no catch.
3. Minutes of the last meeting
  - a. President read through key points of the Minutes of 2013 Congress
  - b. Matters arising from the minutes:
    - i. Proposed hosts for 2015 have all withdrawn their proposals.
    - ii. No other matters arising, as they will be covered later in this meeting.
4. Presidents Report
  - a. Report from EDBF President, Nick Pinnock:
    - i. Vincent Renaud (France) has been added to the EDBF Council during the year. The members voted unanimously to confirm this appointment.
    - ii. Over the last year Nick has been working with Asian Federation and NDJ (USA) to form a new world governing body for dodgeball. The original World Federation (WDBF) split in 2, the two federations have been using the same name. One WDBF includes EDBF and ADF and has grown to 21 nations the other has 6 nations spread around Pacific. EDBF and ADF have decided to rename their federation the World Dodgeball Association (WDA) and they are working with NDJ (USA). More on this later in this meeting.
    - iii. UK Dodgeball Association is working on an international dodgeball coaching manual, with Sports Coaches UK, a government organization dealing with training courses for sports coaches.
5. Election of EDBF Council for 2014-2015
  - a. Election period for Council – Nick Pinnock suggested that from 2015 Council Members should be elected for a period of 2 years, President voted for one year and the Vice-Presidents voted for on alternate years, instead of every year as at present. Congress voted unanimously in favour of this proposal.

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- b. Nominations for EDBF President - none received, Nick Pinnock to continue until Congress 2015.
  - c. Bernard Thompson (Ireland) has resigned from office as a Vice-President.
  - d. Nominations for EDBF Vice-Presidents (5) – Nick said as Bernard has stepped down, an opening existed for a new VP. Andrea Robbia (Italy) suggested there should be a female member of Council to represent women’s interests. Nicola Studeny was nominated by Daniel Malik (Austria), no other nominations were received for the vacant position or any of the other VP positions.
  - e. Votes for vice-presidential candidates – Nicola Studeny was unanimously voted in as a member of the EDBF Council. Andrea Robbia (Italy), Daniel Nedelcu (Romania), Tom Hickson (England) and Vincent Renaud (France) were all unopposed and they will continue as Vice Presidents.
6. European Championships
- a. Hosts for 2015
    - i. No proposals were forthcoming.
    - ii. Daniel Malik (Austria) proposed an entry fee. Previous Euros hosts have taken responsibility for all costs. After discussion, an entry fee for €10 per player per team, was suggested; the vote was unanimously in favour of this proposal.
    - iii. Nick Pinnock said England could host if necessary but they had a proposal to host the event in 2017, in Manchester.
    - iv. Nick Pinnock said UK could possibly host but not in England. Northern Ireland were going to propose that they host Euros 2016, but as there were no other hosts they will put the matter to the NIDBA to host the event in 2015, in Belfast. Nick Pinnock said UKDBA will assist with preparations.
    - v. Shaun Scott said Scotland might be able to host in 2015, in Aberdeen, but he will need to speak to the Scottish club in Aberdeen after Euros 2014.
    - vi. Nick Pinnock gave Scotland and N.Ireland a deadline of 2 months to confirm their ability to host the championships next year.
    - vii. Daniel Nedelcu will contact absentee nations, Czech Republic and Switzerland, to ask if they will host 2015.
  - b. Hosts for 2016 - France will consider a proposal to host Euros in 2016.
  - c. Hosts for 2017 – England (Manchester) offered a proposal for 2017, which would be hosted by Manchester City Council, with funding from Sport England.
  - d. Club Champions League – this matter was raised last year. It was felt that not enough nations had a strong enough national league system to support this competition.
7. WDA membership
- a. Formation and development - Over last 10 months Nick and Tom Hickson (EDBF VP) have been working with the Asian Dodgeball Federation and the NDL (USA) to form a new world governing body, the World Dodgeball Association (WDA). A new federation in Egypt has recently joined this movement, along with Asian nations not yet part of the ADF. This means that a total of 26 nations are working together within WDA. It is hoped that after the official launch in November some WDBF nations, 6 in total, will also join

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WDA. Main goal of WDA is Olympic recognition, this will take approximately 16 years before a bid is ready for IOC recognition.

- b. WDA Dodgeball World Cup – Date Feb.2016, venue Manchester, England. Qualification for the World Cup will be through continental championships, such as European Championships and Asian Championship.
  - c. WDA Rules
    - i. If World Cup goes ahead, we have only a few months to agree on a rule set for Euros 2015 and thus World Cup 2016.
    - ii. Nick highlighted some key rule differences in Europe and Asia, such as blocking being an out in ADF rules.
    - iii. Mentioned that on day 1 of Euros 2014 there were too many false starts. Asian rules require a stationary start to avoid this, before issuing warnings and cards.
      1. Vote was unanimously against a stationary start, but yes to revising the rules somehow.
8. Rules
- a. Size of dodgeballs for women's games – this vote will be deferred until tomorrow (Sunday). All women's teams will vote on this matter and majority vote will decide.
  - b. Start of game-False Starts
    - i. Most representatives not keen on the stationary proposal.
    - ii. Sweden suggest it would make more sense to punish a team for false starts. Wales warned that too often we only punish by players out.
    - iii. Various representatives suggesting conceding either that one, or all three balls by default after a false start.
    - iv. France suggested a maximum time between first "ready" and whistle at opening rush.
  - c. Scoring - Nick noted that in USA and Asia "sets" are played, instead of timed, 3-minute Periods.
    - i. They play for 20 minutes and a point is only scored for every complete elimination of the opposing team, called a 'set', with final points for league/group tables awarded purely for a match win or draw.
    - ii. Discussion on advantages and disadvantages of this set-up (puts the emphasis on winning, which most representatives liked, but is a very big change and might still be logistically difficult).
  - d. Shun Wong (Ireland) said that he had played in Hong Kong to ADF rules. Their game was much slower and less dynamic than under EDBF rules but they also had some good rules which could be introduced into Europe.
  - e. Nick suggested a Rules Committee be formed. No members were proposed for this committee. Nick suggested that each National Representative should vote on all rules changes and propose changes to the rules. Issues regarding rules will be dealt with by email. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of this proposal.
9. Any other business: no other matters were raised.
10. Meeting closed at 9:20 p.m.

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