

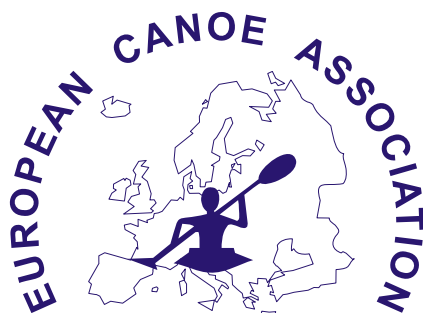
**THE 12th ORDINARY CONGRESS OF THE
EUROPEAN CANOE ASSOCIATION**

**SOFIA, BULGARIA
28th MARCH 2015**

MINUTES

AGENDA:

1)	Opening of the Congress
2)	Roll – call of delegates and establishing the quorum
3)	Appointment of Scrutineers for the period of the Congress
4)	Report by the President and by the Secretary General on behalf of the ECA Board
5)	ECA Financial report 2013-2014 and Report by the Auditor
6)	ECA Board and ECA Auditor elections <u>List 1:</u> 6.1. Election of the ECA President <u>List 2:</u> 6.2. a) Election of the ECA Vice President 6.2. b) Elections of the ECA Board members 6.2. c) Election of the Auditor
7)	Elections of the Continental Representatives to the ICF Board
8)	Proposals for the ECA Statutes Changes
9)	Proposals for the ECA Rules Changes
10)	Fixing the Annual Subscription Fee for the next two (2) years
11)	Establishing the Working (Development) Programme for 2015/2016
12)	Establishing the Budget for 2015/2016
13)	Closing the Congress



ITEM 1

OPENING OF THE CONGRESS

The ECA President Mr. Albert Woods opened the 12th ECA Ordinary Congress at 9.00 a.m. by welcoming ICF President Mr. Jose Perurena Lopez, ICF 1st Vice President Mr. Istvan Vaskuti and Mr. Luciano Buonfiglio – ICF Treasurer so as present Delegates, thanked to Bulgarian Canoe Federation and Secretary General Mrs. Evelina Petrova and organisation team for organisation of the ECA Congress. President Woods then invited Mrs. Evelina Petrova to address the Congress.

Mrs. Evelina Petrova welcomed the Delegates on behalf of Bulgarian Canoe Federation, as the organiser of the 12th ECA Ordinary Congress. She wished a pleasant stay in Novotel Hotel Sofia and invited them to enjoy the capital of Bulgaria.

President Woods welcomed ICF President Mr. Jose Perurena Lopez and invited him to address the Congress. Mr. Perurena Lopez expressed his satisfaction in taking part in the ECA Congress and wished a successful Congress.

Special thanks were expressed to the Azerbaijan Canoe Federation for all their efforts in hosting the 1st European Games 2015 in Baku.

President Woods mentioned the late members and friends of ICF and ECA: Mr. Ulrich Feldhoff, former ICF President, Mr. Levon Ghazaryan, President of Armenian Canoe Federation, Mr. André Vandeput ECA Auditor, and Mr. Bojan Žmavc, President of the Canoe Federation of Slovenia, and asked all the Congress to stand for a few minutes to honour our dear departed friends.

President Woods then asked the Secretary General Mr. Branko Lovric to do the roll call of the Federations present.

ITEM 2

ROLL – CALL OF DELEGATES AND ESTABLISHING THE QUORUM

Secretary General Lovric welcomed delegates and did the roll–call of the delegates and reported the presence of

35 National Federations as follows:

AND, AUT, AZE, BLR, BEL, BIH, BUL, CRO, CYP, CZE, DEN, FIN, FRA, MKD, GER, GBR, GRE, HUN, IRL, ITA, LAT, MLT, NED, NOR, POL, POR, ROU, RUS, SRB, SVK, SLO, ESP, SWE, TUR and UKR.

The quorum was reached; the count of votes showed a total of **35** valid votes. In addition, Secretary General Lovric explained that the simple majority is **18** votes and the 2/3 (absolute) majority is **24** votes.

ITEM 3

APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS FOR THE PERIOD OF THE CONGRESS

Secretary General Lovric suggested Mrs. Gabriela Christina Racaru from Romania, Mr. Emil Mladenov from Bulgaria and Mauro Betti from Italy to be the Scrutineers during the Congress.

The proposal was unanimously accepted.

ITEM 4

REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT AND BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON BEHALF OF THE ECA BOARD

All the present Delegates received the Report by the President and Secretary General prior the ECA Congress. The Report gives details about the Meetings and tasks undertaken in 2013 and 2014, ECA competitions organised in 2013 and 2014, Issues and Main Points of the Report as follows:

- Successful including of the Canoe Sprint discipline in the programme of the European Games 2015
- Rising of the number of women events in the programme of the European Games Baku 2015 (all Olympic disciplines plus K-2 women 200 m, K-1 men and women 5000 m) – 15 medals (9 men and 6 women events)
- Perspective development of the Slalom discipline in Bulgaria, agreement with Bulgarian Canoe Federation about their participation in the ECA Development camps and European Slalom Championships Skopje 2014
- Establishing of the ECA Open Junior Slalom Cup became great success with participation of the impressive number of the European and overseas countries in all 5 races organized in 5 Countries (SLO, POL, GER, SVK, and CZE).

Development Programme was the last point of the Report about helping the countries to participate to the qualification event for the European Games Baku 2015 (ARM, GEO, GRE, BIH and FYROM). Also, the training camp was organised for countries included in ECA Slalom Development Programme and Bulgaria and Bosnia and Herzegovina received the donation of the specific equipment.

The reports were then unanimously accepted.

ITEM 5

ECA FINANCIAL REPORT 2013-2014 AND REPORT BY THE AUDITOR

Secretary General Lovric invited Delegates to ask questions about the Accounts for 2013-2014 regarding the income and expenses but there were none.

President Woods invited ECA Auditor Mr. Jean Claude Dethise, to address the Congress about the financial reports. Mr. Jean Claude Dethise welcomed President Woods,

Members of the Board, Delegates and delivered a report on the work of the ECA for the period 2013 – 2014 and made the following observations:

- The audit of the accounts was done with generally accepted auditing standards
- The receipts and expenses are transparent and understandable and no payment is recorded without a voucher or an invoice
- All asked information asked for was given correctly and completely

Mr. Dethise asked the Delegates to approve the ECA Financial Report and thanked the Treasurer for all of his effort.

The report was supplied to the Delegates prior to the Congress.

The report was then unanimously accepted.

ITEM 6

ECA BOARD AND ECA AUDITOR ELECTIONS

Secretary General Lovric explained that all elected persons must attain more than 50% of the votes. Since there were eight (8) candidates for the ECA Board the voting would be in two or more rounds. The person who receives more than 50% of the votes is in the ECA Board and the person who receives the smallest number of votes is out of the further election. Secretary General presented List 1 with two (2) candidates for ECA President. On the List 2 there were two (2) candidates for the ECA Vice President, eight (8) candidates for three (3) places in ECA Board of Directors and one (1) candidate for the ECA Auditor.

6.1. A – Election of the ECA President

There were two (2) candidacies received for the position of the ECA President. Both candidates represented their programme to the Congress.

The voting system: one (1) name on the ballot papers can be marked.

- Mr. Albert Woods was re-elected with **20 valid votes** (Elected for a 4 year term)
- Mr. Mario Santos received 15 votes.

6.2. A – Election of the ECA Vice President

There were two (2) candidacies received for the position of the ECA Vice President. Both candidates represented their programme to the Congress.

The voting system: one (1) name on the ballot papers can be marked.

- Mr. Jaroslav Pollert was elected with **20 valid votes** (Elected for a 4 year term).
- Mr. Christian Jacobsen received 14 votes.
One vote was not valid.

6.2. B – Election of the ECA Board members

There were eight (8) candidacies received for the position of three (3) Board members.

	NAME	1 ST ROUND	2 ND ROUND	3 RD ROUND
1	PATRICK BERARD (FRA)	8		
2	ANDREJ JELENC (SLO)	13	16	20*
3	THOMAS KONIETZKO (GER)	25*		
4	GEIR KVILLUM (NOR)	11	11	8
5	MARTA FELPETO LAMAS (ESP)	10	13	20*
6	PIOTR MARKIEWITCZ	12	7	
7	MIRKO NISOVIC (SRB)	10	10	10
8	GABOR SCHMIDT (HUN)	10	11	10
	NOT VALID	2	1	1

*- elected

New elected Board members were: Mr. Thomas Konietzko, Mr. Andrej Jelenc and Mrs Marta Felpeto Lopez .

The new structure of the ECA Board of Directors:		
President	Mr. Albert Woods OBE (GBR)	Mandate valid 2019
Vice President	Mr. Miroslav Haviar (SVK)	Mandate valid 2017
Vice President	Mr. Jaroslav Pollert (CZE)	Mandate valid 2019
General Secretary	Mr. Branko Lovric (CRO)	Mandate valid 2017
Member	Mr. Andrej Jelenc (SLO)	Mandate valid 2019
Member	Mr. Thomas Konietzko (GER)	Mandate valid 2019
Member	Mrs. Marta Felpeto Lamas (ESP)	Mandate valid 2019
Member	Mrs. Elly Müller (NED)	Mandate valid 2017
Member	Mrs. Irina Siraeva (RUS)	Mandate valid 2017

6.1. C – Election of the Auditor

The only candidate for the position of the Auditor was Mr. Jean Claude Dethise from Belgium and President Woods suggested the voting by acclamation. Mr. Jean Claude Dethise was unanimously accepted as the ECA Auditor. (Elected for a 2 year term)

ITEM 7

ELECTIONS OF THE CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE ICF BOARD

Five (5) candidacies were approved for the voting since the representative to the ICF Board must be the ECA Board member, with 2 places available.

Results of voting:

	NAME	1 ST ROUND	2 ND ROUND
1	MIROSLAV HAVIAR (SVK)	9	
3	ANDREJ JELENC (SLO)	15	21*
3	THOMAS KONIETZKO (GER)	24*	
4	IRINA SIRAEVA (RUS)	10	14

*** - elected**

According to the number of received votes **Mr. Thomas Konietzko (GER)** was elected for a 4 year term and **Mr. Andrej Jelenc (SLO)** for a 2 year term.

Note: Election period is Subject to any Governance changes made by the ICF Congress 2016)

ITEM 8

PROPOSAL FOR THE ECA STATUTES CHANGES

The Board received the proposals for the ECA Statutes changes from Slovenia, Sweden, Portugal and Denmark.

a) Canoe Federation of Slovenia put 4 proposals of the Statute Changes.

Three about including the Chairman if the Technical Committees in the Olympic discipline in the structure of the Board of directors and one to define duties of the ECA Vice presidents (one for marketing and public relations and second to work close to the Technical delegates).

The Slovenian delegate withdrawn these proposals

b) **The Swedish Canoe Federation proposal about that Congresses should be lead by a chair elected for that position at the Congress got 5 votes.**

The proposal was rejected by the Congress.

c) The Swedish proposal to change the Statutes Article 1.3. regarding language to: The official language of the ECA is English got 6 votes.

The proposal was rejected by the Congress

d) Motion of the Portuguese Canoe Federation that the elected Board members in this Congress take duty after the European Games, in October 2015 was withdrawn.

e) A proposal of the Danish Canoe Federation that the Board is obliged to create a strategic plan for the ECA,(The ECA Board felt that it is not a Statute matter but a Bylaw and will be part of the future additions to new bylaws to the Statute), so the Congress voted on this proposal which received 6 votes.

The proposal was not accepted by the Congress.

f) The Board of Directors motion to the Congress delegates that all the Board are elected at the same Congress that will be held between the European Games, got only 16 votes.

The proposal was not accepted by the Congress.

g) The Proposal of the Board of Directors that in the year of the European Games there will be no European Championships in any discipline included in the Games got 33 votes.

The proposal was accepted by the Congress

ITEM 9

PROPOSALS FOR THE ECA RULES CHANGES

The Board received two (2) proposals for the ECA Rules changes from Denmark and Hungary.

The Danish Canoe Federation suggested a new European Championships in ergometer canoeing which received 6 votes.

The proposal was rejected by the Congress.

President Woods commented that if any of the National Federations decides to organise competition named European Cup or Challenge ergometer canoeing, it would be supported by the ECA Board.

The Hungarian Canoe Federation put proposal of changing the age categories from U23 to U21 got 3 votes.

The proposal was rejected by the Congress.

President Woods commented that if the ICF will make changes regarding the age category the ECA would follow their decision.

ITEM 10

FIXING THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS

The amount of the Annual Subscription fee for the next two years is agreed to be the same as present (250,00 €).

The amount for the Annual Subscription Fee was accepted.

ITEM 11

ESTABLISHING THE WORKING (DEVELOPMENT) PROGRAMME FOR 2013/2014

ECA Working (Development) Programme was presented in writing.

Secretary General Lovric informed the Congress about the TV broadcasting from Vienna, during the 2014 ECA Senior Canoe Slalom Championship, to ninety (90) countries, all over the World which is a great success for canoeing.

The delegate from (FIN) asked about equity between men in women both in competition and administration. He also made reference to a document already signed in Finland.

President Woods replied that it is the same issue in ICF and ECA, women have all the support but they are still not present enough in canoeing. The fact that the Board of Directors has three (3) women is a good indication for the future. President Woods kindly asked for the copy of the document concerned so it could be discussed at one of the next Board of Directors meetings.

Development (Marketing) Programme was accepted.

ITEM 12

ESTABLISHING THE BUDGET FOR 2015/2016

Secretary General Lovric explained that the amount of 60.000,00 € for the Development, Marketing and Expert Services should be adequately invested and that the ECA should receive a return on this. The ECA will wait for an arrangement with the ICF about the ideal solution that was agreed by the ICF Board of Directors in Marrakech the week before this Congress.

Mr. Andrej Jelenc (SLO) suggested finding the professional company for the future projects.

Mr. Ep Stormink (NED) asked about the reasons why Marketing has the biggest amount in the Budget. Secretary General Lovric replied that Marketing means sponsorships and ECA is trying to sell the TV rights which is not easy but there has to be a goal to achieve.

Mr. Marc Clinton (IRL) congratulated to the ECA for the income from the 1st European Games Baku 2015 and asked the question about the decreased amount for the TV rights in the Budget for 2015/2016 Mr. Branko Lovric explained that the Budget is made according to the expected income and that selling of the TV rights in 2014 was already lower than expected, but that ECA Board will work on extending the TV market.

President Woods concluded the short discussion with the proposal that every National Federation has the opportunity to send the proposals to the Board and that are all welcomed.

The Congress accepted the Budget.

ITEM 13
CLOSING THE CONGRESS


President Woods thanked all the Delegates for their attendance, input and patience; He also thanked the Bulgarian Canoe Federation, scrutineers and translators for their hard work and closed the Congress.

President Woods invited all the Delegates to give contribution to the Open discussion that will be held after the Lunch brake.

President Woods thanked once again to all the Delegates for the attendance, their patience and cooperation, as well as to the organiser and to the translators.

The Congress closed at 13.45 hours.

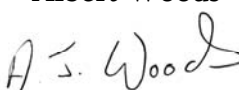
Branko Loyric



ECA Secretary General



Albert Woods



ECA President