



Minutes of the ECA Board of Directors Meeting
Chania, Crete, Greece
25th March 2023

B. 03/2023

ITEM 1

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was opened by the President Mr Jean Zoungrana at 3:00 p.m. by welcoming the present members of the Board and expressing joy to have an opportunity to work with them. The President also suggested having meetings individually with the Board members and Technical delegates in order to get to know them. Mr Branko Lovric welcomed back Mr Geir Kvillum.

Present members:

President:	Jean Zoungrana
Secretary General:	Branko Lovric
Vice Presidents:	Andrej Jelenc, and Miroslav Haviar (Zoom)
Board Members:	Jovana Stanojevic, Manuela Gawehn, Geir Kvillum, Peter Karai, Ruud Heijselaar

Other present:

ECA Media Office:	Nina Jelenc
ECA Office:	Ivana Sundov

1)	Opening of the Meeting
2)	Accepting the Agenda of the Board meeting
3)	Discussion based on the Congress's decisions and proposals
4)	Information from the ECA Technical Delegates
5)	News from the EG Krakow 2023 (Jovana, Andrej)
6)	Naming of the ECA Technical delegate for the Ocean Racing
7)	ECA Calendar and allocation of the ECA Championships 2024-2025 (Vacant

	positions) and 2026
8)	Naming of the ECA July 2023
9)	Proposals from Mr. Jaroslav Pollert
10)	Proposals from Mr. Ruud Heijselaar
11)	Proposals from Mr. Andrej Jelenc
12)	Next ECA Board meeting date proposal
13)	Miscellaneous

ITEM 2

ACCEPTING THE AGENDA OF THE BOARD MEETING

The Board approved the Agenda.

ITEM 3

DISCUSSION BASED ON THE CONGRESS'S DECISIONS AND PROPOSALS

ITEM 4

INFORMATION FROM THE ECA TECHNICAL DELEGATES

Mrs Manuela Gawehn informed the Board that Australian paddlers expressed interest to join the ECA WW Cups and WW Championships as forerunners, which the Board accepted. Mrs Jovana Stanojevic expressed concern about ECH Sprint JUN&U23 in Montemor due to Youth Catholic Conference taking place on the same dates, which affects the organization by the rising price of plane tickets and reduced numbers of busses for transfers. Inspection of the venue in Bratislava for ECH Sprint Jun&U23 in 2024, Mrs Jovana Stanojevic is planning to visit during the National regatta. Mr Andrej Jelenc due to his new position as ECA Vice President decided to withdraw from the position of Technical delegate for Slalom. After discussion Board agreed to name all TD for next period in autumn 2024, what was accepted and from Mr Andrej Jelenc. Mr Ruud Hejselaar informed the Board that the organization of the ECH Marathon in Slavonski Brod is going well, very satisfied with the TV company and venue. Venue in Poznan for ECH Marathon in 2024, Mr Ruud Hejiselaar is planning to visit during National Championships.

ITEM 5

INFORMATION FROM THE ECA TECHNICAL DELEGATES

Mr Andrej Jelenc suggested having a meeting with the ICF due to the travel costs of Chief official Sue Natoli for the European Games in Krakow. The meeting with the organizer of the Games and local organizers Mr Andrej Jelenc is planning to have in April. Mrs Jovana Stanojevic informed the Board that the TV company wants her to reduce the time

between the races, and as IMAS company for the automatic start pulled out from tender, Poland will equip the course with their starting system.

ITEM 6

NAMING OF THE ECA TECHNICAL DELEGATE FOR THE OCEAN RACING

Two candidates applied for the position of Technical delegate for Ocean Racing, Marian Sarbu from Belgium, and Mr Robert Liberato from Switzerland. After discussion and conclusion that both candidates are capable to fulfil duties of this position, Board has to select one.

Finally, The Board appointed Mr. Roberto Liberato (SUI) as new TD for Ocean Racing for the period 2023/2024.

Mr Branko Lovric pointed to inform Federations about this decision.

ITEM 7

ECA CALENDAR AND ALLOCATION OF THE ECA CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024-2025 (VACANT POSITIONS) AND 2026

The ECA Board made the following decisions on the vacancy and the dates of the ECA events:

2024

Sprint Seniors – Szeged, June 13-16 – date agreed

2025

Dragon Boat – Spresiano, agreed to check with the bidders if they are still interested in the organization.

2026

- Sprint – Montemor, the suggestion is to use their bid for the following year, if Sprint will not be a part of the European Multisport Championships in 2026
- Sprint Jun&U23 – Szeged, venue approved by the Board
- Marathon – Bascov, subject to TD inspection

On a suggestion to have combined Championships for SUP and Sprint in 2024, the BOD decided to accept it.

Due to poor interest to bid for Championships in 2025 (especially Slalom and White Water) and 2026, the Board believes that it is necessary to make some changes and that this situation will be discussed further with the ICF.

Mr Branko Lovric is going to send out a letter to the Federations to apply for vacant positions.

ITEM 8

NAMING OF THE ECA JURY 2023

WW SENIOR – Skopje 16-20 May

President of the ECA Jury Mr. Jean Zoungrana	1 st Jury member Andrej Jelenc	2 nd Jury member – from host
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SPRINT SENIOR – EG KRAKOW 22-24 JUNE

President of the ECA Jury Miroslav Haviar	1 st Jury member Ruud Hejselaar	2 nd Jury member Andrej Jelenc
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SLALOM SENIOR – EG KRAKOW 29 JUNE – 2 JULY

President of the ECA Jury Jean Zoungrana	1 st Jury member Miroslav Haviar	2 nd Jury member – host Branko Lovric
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MARATHON – SL. BROD CROATIA 13-16 JULY

President of the ECA Jury Miroslav Haviar	1 st Jury member Geir Kvillum	2 nd Jury member – host Marko Curkovic
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SLALOM JUNIOR – CUNOVO SVK, 20-24 JULY

President of the ECA Jury Jean Zoungrana	1 st Jury member Andrej Jelenc	2 nd Jury member – host Miroslav Haviar
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SPRINT JUNIOR & U23 – PARA MONTEMOR, 27-30 JULY

President of the ECA Jury Ruud Hejselaar	1 st Jury member Andrej Jelenc	2 nd Jury member – host
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CANOE POLO, BRANDENBURG GER, 5-10 SEPT

President of the ECA Jury Jean Zoungrana	1 st Jury member Ruud Hajiselaar	2 nd Jury member – host
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ITEM 9

PROPOSALS FROM Mr. Pollert

1. 30 years of ECA – special Article which could be distributed during Krakow Games?
Who should be nominated for any order? Where to make celebration if any?

BD: *The Board decided to postpone the decision on how to celebrate 30 years of ECA*

2. from strategic point of view it is necessary to have in all European Games both Olympic disciplines. Without possibility to be member of Olympic Family, budget for all NF dramatically be decreased. Therefore it is necessary to prepare strategic plan for the next Games.

BD: *Including of the sports is under authority of the EOC, and it depends on selected organisers possibilities.*

ITEM 10

PROPOSALS FROM MR. RUUD HEIJSELAAR

1. With the new board there will have to be an overall policy for the future of canoeing, but also more synergy between the disciplines and how we can strengthen our sport in breadth.
2. I assume the chairman has an agenda where he will be on it in the coming period and that is important, but also to set up working groups on the various topics
3. Examine where our weaknesses lie in our sport (e.g. few C boats, number of participating countries in the non-Olympic disciplines, sport presentation, PR, etc.) and have a working group(s) investigate this.
4. Setting up a sports commission group where we can discuss the various common issues of the racing disciplines. I propose that this sports committee consisting of all racing disciplines meet every 2 years under the leadership of the President or Vice-President.
5. Seminars (ITO's) for disciplines that have a lot of common ground and same ITO's (sprint, marathon, SUP and possibly Ocean Racing and a group with slalom, WW, Canoe Polo).
6. Working group to make the bids more transparent, and create a clear document which must be use by all disciplines.
7. Explore the possibility of a combine European Championship within the ECA.

BD: *Considering the proposals presented, President Zoungrana underlines the interest of appointing a vice-president who will be responsible for the sport program and of establishing a Sport Committee bringing together the Technical delegates to work better together and take appropriate decisions. It is proposed to organise meeting of the ECA Board with the ECA Technical delegates to establish better communication and defining of the duties, so as to invite them periodically to the ECA Board meetings.*

ITEM 11

PROPOSALS FROM MR. ANDREJ JELENC

1. Competition system for the Olympic cycle 2028 - 2032 and beyond (presentation at the Congress)

BD: *As Mr. Jelenc has presented the proposal of the competition system during the Open discussion after the ECA Congress, it was not presented again, but will be discussed and coordinated with the ICF.*

2. Coaching education - development countries

BD: *Mr Jelenc pointed importance of the education of coaches, mentioned example that in the Montenegro is not possible to establish sport clubs without the licensed coach, so education is crucial for starting of the organised canoeing activities in new countries.*

Mr Lovric noted that from the ECA HQ was sent letter to several European Countries (ALB, BIH, EST, LAT, LTU, KOS, MKD, MDA) request to inform ECA about their needs for the development activities, what will be discussed with the ICF Development staff to fulfil their needs necessary for activities.

ITEM 12

NEXT ECA BOARD MEETING DATE PROPOSAL

The date will be agreed later. If conditions permit, it could be organised on the occasion of the ICF Board meeting in Budapest at the end of the April 2023.

ITEM 13

MISCELLANEOUS

To answer question about the way of establishing the Working groups, President Zoungrana suggested asking Federations for their proposals of the interested persons who like to join the specific groups and help the work of the ECA.

At the end the President Jean Zoungrana thanked all members of the Board for their inputs and contribution. As there being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was closed at 4:45 p.m.

Branko Lovric
ECA Secretary General



Jean Zoungrana
ECA President

