

General Assembly Minutes

International Mixed Martial Arts Federation General Assembly, Manama, 2017

Date: 17/11/17

Location: Function room, The Golden Tulip Hotel, Manama, Bahrain

Invitees Attended:

President Kerrith Brown

CEO Densign White

Directors: August Wallen, Khalid Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, Tom Madsen, Raymond Philips, Wissam Abi Nadder, Frank Babcock.

Federations: Arjan Rizaj (Albania), Joe Mineham (Australia), Michael Ettl, Dr Fritz Treiber (Austria), Kenan Mammadov (Azerbaijan), Mohammed Qamber, Waleed Sayyar (Bahrain), Axel Vankimmenade (Belgium), Alexey Antsyovich, Alexey Savchuk, Andrey Makarenko (Belarus), Cristiano Sampaio (Brazil), Stanislav Nedkov, Veronica Nalbatska (Bulgaria), Stefanos Charalampous, Stefanos Kyriakides (Cypres), Bill Mahood (Canada), Jamie Baron (Colombia), Lee Teng Hong, Hoong Kam Thean (China), Martin Skvara, (Czech Republic), Thomas Knudsen (Denmark). Khaled Abdel Hamid (Egypt), Heikki Kaijalainen, Janne Tulirinta (Finland), Ghislain Bryks (France), Clemens Werner, Victor Wolf (Germany), Masakazu Sakai, Shinji Nishimura, (Japan), Erika Nemeth, Gabor Kokai (Hungary), Alan Fernandez (India), Mikail Nadirov (Kazakhstan), Hasan Jezzini (Lebanon), Miomir VUJOVIC, Nathalie Dupays, (Luxembourg), Sara Cova, Raul Salas Navarro (Mexico), Matt Toa (New Zealand), Riaz Jahangir, Bashir Ahmad (Pakistan), Luis Borneto (Portugal), John Cavanagh, Liam Og Griffin (Republic of Ireland), George Stanciu, Amatto Zaharia (Romania), Maxim Protokin, Lurii Kochergin (Russia), Grant Oliff, JD Du Pleassis (South Africa), Antonio García (Spain), Jorgen Hamberg, Christer Ringblom (Sweden), Bakhtier Khojaev, Davron Juroe (Tajikistan), Jitinat Asdamongkol (Thailand), Eusebio Rivera (Panama), Ali Arik (Turkey), Amin Nacheb, Fehre Ounires (Tunisia), Serhiy Antropov (Ukraine), Nigel Burgess (UK), Danny Corr (Northern Ireland), Justin Brown, (US)

Apologies:

Sowyamvu Raj Dangol (Nepal), Pawel Harasim (Poland), Kim Dae Ryeong (South Korea),

There were 38 Full Member Federation with the right to vote presented at the 2017 General Assembly in Bahrain.

As per IMMAF statutes the quorum had been reached and Assembly was able to commence.

The chairperson CEO Densign White declared the General Assembly the official opening of the at least one third 1/3 of the member national federations were presented and a 3 different continents were present.

1. Opening of the meeting

President Kerrith Brown gave an opening speech, thanking the delegates in attendance for their commitment and the hospitality of the hosts, the Bahrain MMA Federation (BMMAF). Mr. Brown reminded all that IMMAF's vision is to unite and become an Olympic sport.

In addition, additional updates moving forward were highlighted, such as youth regulations and potential youth championships, plus obstacles faced within GAISF (Sport Accord). – reminder of the goal to present 1 application in 2018, negotiations ongoing with WMMAA.

2. Activity report

CEO Densign White presented an overview of all key activities undertaken in the past 12 months and how outcomes will influence decisions moving forwards, including:

- Addition of new, non-executive board members.
- Bronze membership with the Sport Integrity Global Alliance (SIGA)
- Expansion of membership: 5 new federations welcomed in 2016 taking the total to 68 with a further 10 being processed.
- IMMAF leadership engages with key figures at the SportAccord convention in Aarhus. IMMAF faces political obstacles within GAISF (formaly SportAccord), presenting the need for WMMAA merger.
- Sport Development: Implementation of IMMAF Talent Development System to create safe pathways for and structure for MMA participants
- Events calendar: Participation at IMMAF championships continues to expand, 2018 events calendar will see the addition of Junior championships, Oceania Championships and potential grand prix/exclusive events for the top 10 ranked nations, for example.
- IMMAF transitions to welcome new UFC parent company - WME | IMG - as investment partners and primary sponsor.
- Additional partners thanks: SAFE JAWZ, Green Hill, MyNextMatch, Midpoint, Safe MMA and Extreme Sports Channel.

3. Financial matters

Mr. White directed attendees to the printed overview of financial matters.

- Auditor's report shown on screen
- Per membership vote: Freedom of liability for board of directors approved, accounts review approved.
- Additional notes included plans for generating income and sustainability moving forward, independent of the UFC's funding. The following areas were highlighted:

Income statement

Operating expenses

Profit/losses

Sponsors

4. Voting

Appointment of Assembly scrutineers, – Matt Toa (New Zealand), Joe Minehan (Australia), Luis Barneto (Portugal)

- Previous minutes 2015/16 approved - 38 votes

- Activity report approved - 38 votes

- Board liability - approved- 38 votes

- Auditors report approved - 38 votes

- **Election of Financial Audit Committee**

Approved candidates:

Cristiano Gadelha Sampaio (Brazil),

Daniel Isaac (India),

Fares Abi Nader (Lebanon)

- **Election of Arbitration Committee**

Approved candidates:

Eusebio Rivera (Panama),

Dr Fritz Treiber (Austria),

George Stanciu (Romania)

- **Appointment of Disciplinary Committee**

Approved candidates:

Kenan Mammadov (Azerbaijan), M

Martin Skvara (Czech Republic),

Lorelei Isaac (India)

- **Appointment of Nomination committee**

Approved candidates:

Nigel Burgess (UK),

Mionur Vujovic (Luxembourg),

Pallavi Jain (India)

Each of the above votes and elections were unanimous – 0 abstentions or objections.

5. Approval of applications now eligible for full membership from observational. The following nations were all approved unanimously - 38 votes – 0 abstentions or objections.

Albania

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Cyprus
Colombia
Malaysia
Spain

Federation suspensions: Suspension of the following members was approved until further notice – unanimous decision - 38 votes with 0 abstentions or objections:

Greece – due to lack of communication
Cameroon – breach of immigration law
Georgia – due to lack of communication

5. WMMAA merger negotiation mandate for 2019 Assembly.

- Russian delegates requested further information as to the terms of said merger and how it would affect domestic rivalries between WMMAA and IMMAF members. Further details not applicable at this time on an official level.
- IMMAF CEO answered questions from Russia, Brazil and Czech Republic – explaining that the perceived understanding would be to encourage domestic unity (for nations that have both an IMMAF and WMMAA member). If unity cannot be achieved then the united world body would be forced to recognize the strongest domestic entity, that which has government recognition.
- Approval given for letter of intent following clarification from Mr White and director August Wallen: The General Assembly is giving permission for negotiations only; all final decisions are to be approved future assembly vote.
- 7 abstentions from voting, 38 in favor

Mr. White announced closure of the Assembly.