

# General Assembly Minutes

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## International Mixed Martial Arts General Assembly Vegas 2015

**Date:** 15/7/2015

**Location:** Social A function room, The Linq Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada

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**Invitees Attend:** Lou Lauria (UFC). Jason Gerber and Vincent Vitatoe, (law firm Marquis Aurbach Coffing).

**Full Member Federations:** Australia, Bahrain, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Norway (proxy), Republic Ireland (proxy), Poland, Sweden, USA.

August Wallén (board member), George Sallfeldt (vice president), Bertrand Amoussou (board member), Frank Babcock (board member), Raymond Phillips (board member), Tom Madsen (board member), Wissam Abi Nader (board member), Densign White (CEO), Alistair Pettitt (IMMAF), Isobel Carnwath (IMMAF), Roberto Reid (IMMAF), Lutz Han-Joachim, Karol Matuszczak, Dan Issac, Rodney Moore, Justin Lawrence, Jim Prendergast, Joe Minehan, Stewart Brain, Janne Tulirinta, Heikki Kaijalainen, , Hasan Jezzini, Bashir Ahmad, Omar Bukamal, Nikolay Dobrudzhanski, Merkhat Abilov, Vito Paolillo, Fabio Ciolli, George Stanciu, Christer Ringblom, Ghislain Bryks, Mikail Nadirov, Ryan Brueggeman, Nigel Burgass, Josip Mrkoci, Andrew Redden, Luis Barneto, Nyra Phillips, Shinji Nishimura, Masakazu Sakai, Umeki Yoshinori, Robert Hulett, Kevin Sataki, Gerhard Ettl, Fritz Treiber, Zdenek Ledvina, Robert Schirmer, Rohit Seth, Ferdinand Basson and Martin Škvára.

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### 1. Opening of the meeting

Chief Executive Officer Densign White (DW) gave an opening speech to the delegates in attendance, welcoming them to the international Mixed Martial Arts Federation (IMMAF) first General Assembly.

### 2. Roll Call/Adoption of the agenda

After taking a roll call Densign then requested that the agenda for the meeting be adopted by those present and once the agenda had been accepted he handed over to new IMMAF president Kerrith Brown (KB) who gave a presidents address to the delegates in attendance.

### 3. Activity report

Mr Kerrith Brown on completing his president's address handed the floor back over to Mr Densign White who presented to the delegates an overview of the activity undertaken during the previous 12 months.

**SportAccord** – Mr Densign White CEO reported that with the resignation of the president of SportAccord and a number of sporting bodies leaving that organization that we were no longer sure as to whether they will be around in the coming months. In light of this Densign stated that he would look into IMMAF joining other established bodies which will help increase recognition that the sport of mixed martial arts receives across the globe.

**Wada Code Compliant and signatory** – Mr Densign White reported that IMMAF now has an anti-doping policy and continues to work towards being Wada Compliant and a Wada signatory.

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**Membership** – Mr Densign White informed the members in attendance that we have seen a 16 percent increase in membership since March 2015 now that the new members of the administration team are in place. This has seen countries such as Japan, Australia and Turkey to name a few of the 10 new national federations who have become affiliated to IMMAF.

**Education** – Mr Densign White informed members that IMMAF have a number of progression pathways in development, which will be launched during 2015.

**Building Capacity/Executive Staff Team** – Mr Densign White informed the members that the executive team continues to grow with the appointment of a new Members Relations Manager (Roberto Reid) and Championships and Events Manager (Alistair Pettitt) taking up their respective posts in March 2015.

## 4. Financial matters

The CEO Mr White gave those in attendance an overview of the following areas: -

- I. Financial statements, balance sheet and accounts.
- II. Auditors report and the matter of freedom of liability for the Board of Directors and the President.
- III. Budget for the coming term.

## 5. Statutes - review, change or amendment of statutes and its Bylaws

Because information on the proposed changes to the IMMAF statutes were not sent to members a minimum of 30 days in advance of the meeting (see article 27 of the statutes) the proposed changes to the IMMAF statutes were not able to be ratified.

**ACTION:** Information on the proposed changes to the statutes will be sent out a minimum of 30 days before the date of the next meeting.

## 6. Voting and elections:

- I. Election of IMMAF President - delegates in attendance voted unanimously to reappoint Mr Kerrith Brown as IMMAF president for a minimum of 4-years.
- II. Election of Board of Directors – currently board members August Wallén, George Sallfeldt (vice president), Bertrand Amoussou, Frank Babcock, Tom Madsen all re-elected to the IMMAF board after a members vote.

The election to find 3 additional members of the IMMAF board from the continents of Africa, Asia and Oceania were then held and were overseen by Bashir Ahmad of Pakistan and Ferdinand Basson of South Africa who acted as scrutineers and oversaw the voting during the election.

The results of the election for the new members of the IMMAF board were as follows: -

### Africa

Raymond Phillips (South Africa) stood unopposed and was unanimously voted onto the board by those present at the General Assembly.

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## Asia

Wissam Abi Nader (Lebanon) [7 votes]

Dan Isaac (India) [2 votes]

Masakazu Sakai (Japan) [4 votes]

Wissam Abi Nader was elected as IMMAF board members from Asia/Middle East securing [7] of the 13 votes from the full-members present.

## Oceania

Nyra Phillips (New Zealand) [3 votes]

Stewart Brain (Australia) [10 votes]

Stewart Brain was elected as IMMAF board members representing Oceania securing [10] of the 13 votes from the full-members present.

## 7. Appointment of Financial Audit, Arbitration, Anti-Doping and Anti-Doping Disciplinary Committees

Those in attendance were unable to agree to find suitable candidates for the Financial Audit, Arbitration, Anti-Doping and Anti-Doping Disciplinary Committees but felt that they need to source the most suitable candidates for these positions but all present agreed that these appointments should not be rushed.

**ACTION:** The board and members in attendance agreed to via a show of hands that within 6 months they would set-up a postal voting system (paper or electronic) to allow members select suitable candidates for the Financial Audit, Arbitration, Anti-Doping and Anti-Doping Disciplinary Committees.

## 8. New membership applications

All 46 members' federations who are currently members of the International Mixed Martial Arts Federations had their membership officially ratified unanimously via a show of hands during the General Assembly.

## 9. Review membership fees and penalties

Those present agreed upon continuing to freeze all membership fees and penalties until the next meeting.

## 10. Items presented for information

No items were presented for information.

## 11. Items brought forward from meetings among Members

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- I. A members of the United States delegation called for the formation of an IMMAF coaching committee after which DW informed those present that work had already begun on this.
- II. Mr Josip Mrkoci (Canada) asked if in future the financial information could be made available to members in advance of the meeting or in hard copy at the meeting.

II. Vito Paolillo who was representing the Italian delegation called for the IMMAF to provide international insurance to cover fighters and coaching staff. Mr white IMMAF CEO informed the meeting that all of the fighters were insured by the IMMAF for this world championships.

III. IMMAF president Kerrith Brown addressed those members in attendance and put for the motion that IMMAF founder August Wallén (AW) be awarded the title of honorary president of the International Mixed Martial Arts Federation as a way of formally recognizing all the hard work he has done in order to get IMMAF where it is today.

All members unanimously accepted this motion in attendance and August was awarded the title of honorary president.

## **12. Date and place of next meeting**

TBA

**Minutes prepared by:** [Roberto Reid / 15/07/2015]