

## IMMAF Board Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Rotana Hotel, Manama, Bahrain.

**Directors Present:** Kerrith Brown, President (KB)

George Sallfeldt VP (GS) Bertrand Amoussou (BA) Wissam Abinader (WA) Denitza Batcharova (DB) Stewart Brain (SB) Frank Babcock (FB) Tom Madsen (TM) Raymond Phillips (RP) August Wallen (AW)

**Director Apologies:** No Apologies received.

In Attendance: Densign White, CEO (DW)

Nick Davies (ND)

Minutes: Gosha Malik (GM)

Agenda Item	Comments	Action
1	Roll Call: All Directors present.	
2	Apologies: No Apologies	
3	Presidents Opening remarks: KB short information about the last development.  DW explain the situation with GAISF, a letter was received circulated to the board with the information to defer the decision after a GAISF council meeting that happened in early October 2019.  DW inform the board that the IMMAF application file is in good shape, the number of members is to GAISF satisfaction, 41 members IMMAF qualified as a recognised member, GAISF accepted 26 of those are acceptable the others that are not need more work.  The next step is that GAISF will give opportunity to other combat sports for their opinion/objections. Combat sports have till 31st December 2019 to reply. The council will be meeting again, but because January is too soon, the date was moved to April for a final decision on our observation application which will happen during SportAccord in Beijing 2020.  The board had agreed to grant WADA 3 months stay of the court action to change its policy with its stakeholders that would allow them to make an independent decision on International federations applications for signatory status. This stay expires January 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2020.	

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	BA explain that the combat sports federation are interested in managing the MMA and there were a number of meetings in Paris. Ministry is keen to recognise the MMA but there is a number of changes in the cabinet, and other compact sports were invited to present their application for recognition of MMA under their umbrella. The process is a delay, the strongest position has the wrestling Federation. It is promised to find a solution in January.	
4	APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 20 <sup>th</sup> June, Rome: Approved Stewart Brain proposed, seconded by Frank Babcock	
5	Approval of the budget forecast 2020:  DW presented the Budget and forecast for the next year.  The main income is UFC, next biggest income is registration fees, and this pays for cost of the event, IMMAF overspend on events due to high organization cost, however, this can be viewed as an investment in the sport development. We are anticipating hosting rights fees of \$250k, sponsorship from Safejaws of £3750 and Membership fees at \$1000 per member.  During the last year the IMMAF staff team grew. Other staff had their positions increased to full time for example Andrew Moshanov head of education and development, Marc Goddard regulatory affairs, PR has seen a significant investment where we identified a need to improve our media visibility. This will also enhance our recognition efforts and we need to make an impact leading into China for SportAccord Convention.  Events are very costly, most of the championship fees are spent on operations. Continental events are entirely financed by IMMAF.  IMMAF at the end of 2020 will make a small profit.  TM suggested having the forecast of previous years listed as a comparison to any changes in spending. The format was agreed to carry on for the next years.  The significant impact on the budget would be hosting fees, however, there are talks still in progress but not yet concluded.	
6	Approval of the proposal to General Meeting to change auditors for 2020.	
	The Board agreed to change the auditors for 2020. The new auditors would be presented to members at the next Members Meeting.	
7	Approval of appointments to committees: Anti-doping com, Anti-doping disciplinary com, Disciplinary com, Nominations com.	
	Committees documents had been sent to the board, the nomination committee was not present in Bahrain due to practicality  GS insisted on improving the committee's activities and their working practices. DW Committees are volunteers is expectation could be too high. Some committees are working really well, ant doping committee, and arbitration committee, medical committee.  Each committee has a chairmen and members of staff to support the committees. The chair of each committee would be appointed after approving them by the Board of Directors.  The committees were introduced.  It was agreed only to discuss the committees that need to be appointed by the General Assembly the next day.  Antidoping	

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	Arbitration Nomination Disciplinary Financial audit  Based on that, it was decided to meet after the Directors meeting in the evening to scrutinised candidates and assess that the job they will have to perform is according to their abilities and they were selected and approved by their National Federation. The discussion followed by GS,	
	DW and AW regarding the expectation of appointed committees.	
8	Approval for new commissions:	DW/ND
	I. Athletes Com, Business Development Com, Communications & Marketing Com, Competition Bidding Com, Women's Com, Youth Development Com.	
	II. (Medical Com, Regulatory Com, Coaching Com) existing commissions.	
	The new commissions were unanimously accepted by a vote of the board.	
9	committees/commissions yearly conference. And committees/commissions system solutions	
	There was a discussion about the frequency of the commission and committee meetings and the most cost effective and convenient way to have these meetings minimum once per year. The board members were agreed to have all committees' congress to coincide with competitions.	
10	Discussion on "cooling off" period when switching countries.	
	GS suggested a cooling off period on switching countries and nationalities by athletes. It was proposed for 2 years. SB agreed and supported the decision. AW explained that this will make the teams to work more on developing athletes, and importing athletes raises ethical questions at the moment by National Federations.  DW citizenships and residency rules have a different status, and the IOC is looking into these	
11	cases very strongly.  Approval from the board to add to agenda for General Assembly the change of IMMAF	
	registration to Switzerland in 2020.	
	This proposal was unanimously accepted by a vote in the board.	
12	World Youth championships age banding criteria policy for 2020.	DW
	The board accepted the proposal to accept the year born proposal submitted from Luis Barneto a member of the coaching commission.  DW the document of age Edibility criteria was revived based on Luis Barneto proposal and 17	
	years old should be allowed to compete the year Championship is taking place, till the end of the year of Championship 31 of December that year.	
13	Review of IMMAF statutes.	

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	AW had recommended to use Stefan Stenudd who has some competence in statute writing and is a board member of the International aikido federation and on the board of the Swedish Budo and Martial Arts. For a small fee he could get this much needed work done.	
14	AW requested that the history of IMMAF is written and published.	
15	Any other business. No other business was discussed	
16	Date and location of the next meeting. Date and location of the next meeting was not discussed as members had to leave the meeting to attend the championships.  The meeting ended.	