

EUROPEAN PAINTBALL FEDERATION SUMMARY OF CONGRESS

March 30, 2015

The European Paintball Federation was convened for its second meeting at 9:00 A.M. on March 30, 2015, at the Continental Hotel, St Raphael, France.

Present:

1. Laurent Hamet (France) - President,
2. Patrice Guigou (General Secretary) – Federation de Paintball Sportif, France
3. Ulrich Staehr (the Senior Vice-President) – Deutsche Paintball Liga, Germany
4. Tomasz Matuszewski (Vice-President) - Stowarzyszenie Polska Liga Paintballowa, Poland,
5. Viktor Tohayev (Vice-President) - Paintball Federation of Ukraine, Ukraine,
6. Barry Fuggle (Vice-President) - UK Paintball Sports Federation, Great Britain,
7. Tatiana Nikolaeva – Russian Federation of Paintball, Russia,
8. Christof Wuetrich – Swiss Paintball Federation, Switzerland,
9. Ludovico Artz – Italian Paintball Federation (FISP), Italy,
10. Kerem Barkul - Turkish Paintball Federation (TSHF), Turkey.

Staff of the European Paintball Federation attending:

Viktoriya Sarantseva, EPBF Secretary

Proceedings:

2nd EPBF Congress called to order at 9:00 a.m. on 30th of March, 2015 by the EPBF Executive Committee.

Meeting agenda:

1. Financial accounting 2014 and forecast for 2015.
2. European Championships 2015, World Cup 2016.
3. Format of the European Championships and the World Cup.
4. Approving the Italian Representative in EPBF.
5. EPBF Masters events 2015.
6. Eastern Countries Series.
7. Other.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2014

L.Hamet with the assistance of the EPBF Secretary Viktoriya Sarantseva explained the Earnings and Expenses in 2014.

See the Summary Table below.

EPBF Summary 2014

	Earnings	Expenses
Membership fees 2014 (15)	15 000,00	
Entry fee U19 Championship (7)	3 500,00	
Entry fee Women`s Championship (6)	3 000,00	
Entry fee Man`s Championship (16)	9 350,00	
Entry fee Veterans Championship (8)	4 000,00	
Outstanding payments 2013	2 450,00	
Sponsorship	-	
Advertising rights for EPBF attribute items usage	-	
Investments, stock profits	-	

Others		-	
Events organisation		21 000,00	
Trophies, Flags and Medals		930,00	
Administration Expenses		3900,00	
EPBF Meetings 2013/2014		148,00	
Printing production (banners)		223,02	
Office expences		-	
Website costs		-	
Audit fees		-	
Bank charges		90,00	
	Total	37 700,00	26 291,02
	Balance		11 008,98

L.Hamet ended by appealing to the present to validate the Annual Financial Report 2014 with a positive balance 11 009 EUR.

Voting results: For – 10, Against – 0, Abstained – 0.

FINANCIAL FORECAST 2015

Membership of Ukraine in 2015

Representative of Paintball Federation of Ukraine informed the present about situation in Ukrainian paintball development. Because of the economy crisis and cancelling of the paintball tournaments in 2015, PFU Representative asked for termination of the EPBF Membership fee payment in 2015, for 1 year.

After a short discussion, next decision was taken:

Due to exception with political situation in Ukraine, EPBF skips the Membership fee for Paintball Federation of Ukraine for 1 year.

The decision was put to a vote. **Voting results:** For – 10, Against – 0, Abstained – 0.

EPBF Bank account

Patrice Guigou, as representative of Federation de Paintball Sportif (FPS), which bank account is currently used for EPBF needs, informed the present that FPS cannot longer keep separate account for EPBF because of the technical issues, and asked for urgent opening separate EPBF account. L.Hamet, as the EPBF President, agreed to open the EPBF Bank account as soon as possible.

Financial forecast for 2015 approval

Taking into account all the changes about financial forecast for 2015, present came to the conclusion that it should not be very different from 2014 year.

Approving the Financial Forecast for 2015 was put to a vote. **Voting results:** For – 10, Against – 0, Abstained – 0.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2015

European Championships in 2015.

Dates of the Championships are as follows:

1. European Championship Veterans – 27-28.March in Puget-sur-Argens, France;
2. European Championship Women`s – 08-10.May in Bitburg, Germany;
3. European Championship Man`s – 03-05.July in London-Basildon, UK;
4. European Championship U19 – 18-20.September in Paris-Chantilly, France.

Discount for participating in European Championships

During the discussion of the financial forecast for 2015, the question of discounts for the National teams was raised by Christof Wuetrich. After a long discussion, the decision was made to provide a 20% discount on the entry fees for National teams for the Federations, who provide the National teams for all 4 European Championships in 2015. The discount shall be given on the last event in the Season – European Championship U19.

The decision was put to a vote. **Voting results:** For – 10, Against – 0, Abstained – 0.

Discount for participating in Millennium Series events

One more issue raised about the discounts was a discount for the National team from small Federations to participate on the Millennium Series event, if the National team going only for European Championship, to provide them a possibility to play on the Millennium Series event as well. Because there was no representative from Millennium Series on the Congress, present decided that the written request should be sent to Millennium Series after the Congress.

WORLD CUP 2016

L. Hamet started with information about possibility to hold the World Cup in 2015 in Malaysia, as it was planned before. Malaysian Sports Ministry planned to put up money for the World Cup organization. The budget was supposed to cover the organisational expenses and the travel costs of the National teams participating. In January 2015 we have received an answer from Malaysian Ministry about cancelling the funding of the World Cup organisation. Because the trip to Malaysia would be very expensive for the National teams, a large number of National teams was not expected, so there was no possibility to organise the World Cup in Malaysia.

Taking into account that we have 4 European Championships, which are holding during all the Millennium Series events, we have no dates available to hold the World Cup in Europe.

Next L. Hamet came with the idea to combine the World Cup with European Championships, and to hold the World Championships in 2016 in 4 categories: Veterans, Women`s, Men`s and U19. This will allow the National teams from all around the world to participate on the Championships.

Because there will be National teams from other continents travelling to the World Championship, the EPBF Executive Committee should work on the participating conditions for National teams from Europe and from other continents. The decision should be made on the EPBF Executive Committee meeting in Bitburg, Germany on 7th of May.

The news about World Championships in 2016 should be prepared and published as soon as possible, so the National Federations have a time to prepare the budget.

SPONSORS IN 2016

To increase the EPBF budget L.Hamet came with the idea to involve sponsors. According to L.Hamet, EPBF events can be interesting for manufacturers and merchandisers, who is looking for advertisement and opening new markets. EPBF can sell spots for advertisements, printing the sponsors' logo on different kind of banners, players jerseys etc.

L.Hamet also offered a candidature of Tatiana Nikolaeva as a sales-agent to deal with sponsors. As a reward, T.Nikolaeva will receive a percentage from each deal. The exact number of percentage should be set up later, when the approximate amount of sponsorship is available.

All the present agreed with the idea and with the candidature of T.Nikolaeva.

T.Nikolaeva should work together with L.Hamet on the sponsorship packages, the packages should be finalized on the meeting in Bitburg, Germany on 7th of May.

FORMAT OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016

M500 format.

Laurent Hamet presented a new possibility for European Championships – M500 format.

The idea is to limit the number of paints players use for the tournament, and to reduce significantly the players` expenses on paint.

According to the new format, player may have on the field only feeder and 2 pods full of paints. Because of paints limit, the time of game should be shortening as well up to 40%.

The new format has been successfully presented on the first Millennium Series event in Puget-sur-Argens.

After a short discussion, all the present agreed to get back to this idea later and to discuss the possibilities on the EPBF Executive Committee meeting.

Women`s Championship.

One more idea has been offered for Women`s National teams.

Taking into account the luck of ladies playing paintball in some countries and to give the National Federations a possibility to combine the Women`s National team to participate in the Championship, a possibility to hold the Championship in 2 divisions has been offered:

- Division 5man - format race-to-4
- Division 3man or 4man - format race-to-4 or lower, with lower entry fee.

This second division may be useful for the National Federations which have less than 5 ladies players.

It was decided to send the information to National Federations and to collect their opinion before the final decision.

ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN EPBF

L.Hamet outlined the fact of the matter about Italian Representative in EPBF.

Due to termination of the A.S.D. FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA SPORT PAINTBALL (FISP), the EPBF Member, its membership of EPBF has been terminated at the same time, according to EPBF Statute.

There was another organisation created based on the FISP, with a Federation status, with the same name but with different structure and with wider field of activity. This new Federation, who wish to represent Italy in EPBF, applies the EPBF membership now.

There is another organization in Italy, registered Players Association called IPBS, with the private organization status, who also wants to represent Italy in EPBF.

After a long discussion and lack of information about real situation in Italian paintball market, most of the present agreed that FISP can receive a status of EPBF Representative of Italy after they hold the public elections and start to cooperate with all the Paintball Associations in Italy.

The present made a conclusion to postpone the final decision about full EPBF Membership of FISP until the new elections and to extend the status of a Member on a PROVISIONAL basis, in order to have representative from Italy for the time of European Championships.

Because there was a representative from FISP on the Congress explaining the situation to the present (Ludovico Artz), one of the present voiced objections that the voting may be biased and the EPBF would not act in a neutral manner by allowing FISP to present its point of view, without listening to IPBS at the same time, who has competing claims.

Decision to provide FISP with status of a Member on a PROVISIONAL basis was put to a vote.

Voting results: For – 4, Against – 1, Abstained – 3.

Most of those present agreed to the following interpretation:

EPBF is interesting in cooperation with National Organisation registered as Federation, able to deal with Sports Ministries and NOC, so the sport of paintball can receive an official status in Italy.

Because FISP is in process of finalizing the Federation`s registration and ready to fulfill its tasks in the future, the full EPBF Membership will be granted after the proper election is being held.

FISP is obliged to organize the official elections of the FISP President and Board Members before 01 of July 2015. To be recognized as official, the election should be open to the public, involving all the Paintball Associations in Italy. Information about the elections should be available on all the media recourses and spread to all the Paintball Associations at the same time.

For now EPBF Congress postpones the final decision about the full EPBF Membership of FISP until the new elections and extends the status of a Member on a PROVISIONAL basis, in order to have representative from Italy for the time of European Championships Women`s (Bitburg, Germany) and Men`s (Basildon, UK). As an EPBF Member on a provisional basis, FISP has a right to use EPBF logo and to prepare the National teams.

EPBF MASTERS EVENTS

L.Hamet began by summarizing the results of Masters Events organization from 2014 year. In general there were a lot of issues with the organisation, some of them are: organisation level of the events was low, there were small number of teams participating and some events were not organized at all.

Taking into account all the issues with organizing the Masters events in 2014, there will be no events with Masters Status in 2015 year.

EASTERN COUNTRIES SERIES

Because of the lack of time on this Congress, discussing of the Eastern Countries Series was postponed for the next EPBF Meeting in Bitburg, Germany on 7th of May.

OTHER

EPBF Treasurer

According to the recent e-mail from EPBF Treasurer Wolfgang Kornholz, in which he informed the EPBF Executive Committee that he is no longer available to fulfill his Treasurer duties, the new EPBF Treasurer should be elected. The candidature of Tomasz Matuszewski has been offered for the EPBF Treasurer. T.Matuszewski agreed to fulfill the duties of EPBF Treasurer. To approve the election of T.Matuszewski, the voting should be done by the EPBF Executive Committee in Bitburg, Germany on 7th of May.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Patrice Guigou
General Secretary
European Paintball Federation

Laurent Hamet
President
European Paintball Federation

These minutes will be formally considered by the Congress at its next meeting, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.