

## **EUROPEAN PAINTBALL FEDERATION SUMMARY OF CONGRESS**

December 10, 2016

The European Paintball Federation was convened for its third meeting at 9:00 A.M. on December 10, 2016, at Barcelona, Spain.

### **Present:**

1. Laurent Hamet (France) - President,
2. Ulrich Staehr (the Senior Vice-President) – Deutsche Paintball Liga, Germany
3. Tomasz Matuszewski (Vice-President) - Stowarzyszenie Polska Liga Paintballowa, Poland,
4. Barry Fuggle (Vice-President) - Millennium Series, Great Britain,
5. Manfred Ulrich (Vice-President) – Deutsche Paintball Liga, Germany
6. Stephen Baldwin (Vice-President) – Millennium Series, Great Britain,
7. Kerem Barcool – Paintball Federation of Turkey, Turkey,
8. Ainsley Baddeley – UK Paintball Sports Federation, Great Britain,
9. Laurent Capron – French Paintball Federation, France,
10. Uldiz Berzins – Latvian Paintball Federation, Latvia.

### **Staff of the European Paintball Federation attending:**

Viktoriya Sarantseva, EPBF Secretary

### *Proceedings:*

*3<sup>rd</sup> EPBF Congress called to order at 9:00 a.m. on 10<sup>th</sup> of December, 2016 by the EPBF Executive Committee.*

### **Meeting agenda:**

1. Financial reports 2015-2016 and forecast for 2017.
2. Election of the EPBF President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents and Commissions
3. EPBF events in 2017.
4. ID cards system.
5. Intercontinental Cup.
6. New directions.
7. Other.

To commence the Congress, the current President Laurent Hamet asked the attendees to present themselves, and for them to update the committee about the progress within the National Federations they each represent.

Uldis Berzins from Latvian Paintball Federations talked about their focus concentrating on the youth element of the sport, by holding Champions for young players in schools.

Laurent Capron from French Paintball Federation, recently elected as President, informed the committee about the situation with Paintball generally in France, and also about involving the young players. They have specific rulings for kids, such as using semi-automatic markers and 0.50 caliber paints to reduce the pain of the paintball shots.

Ainsley Baddeley from UKPSF told about their achievements in raising the team number constantly, now they have up to 125 teams participating on the CPPS events.

Tomasz Matuszewski from Poland also spoke about working with youths, especially in schools. They use reballs and 0.68 caliber automatic guns, with 280 bps speed limit.

Ulrich Staehr from German Paintball League (DPL) explained the current situation in Germany: teams which are struggle financially stop playing the DPL and move to another league with less competition, but then in 1-2 years they stop existing. In general the situation with teams is not bad, there are about 400 5man teams and 120 3man teams in Germany. Also U.Staehr told about the problem they face on the tournaments now. They have a new generation very demanding, with a lot of expectations about the tournament quality. They don't accept existing standards, so should be a new model how to involve them in a paintball sport.

Based on the Federations experience, the attendees agreed that EPBF needs to pay more attention to youth sport development, to work with kids/youths. Different countries have different procedures to work with youngsters, and with a need for official coaches to work with minors, each federation must investigate this further. The EPBF must then also find a common set of rulings and procedures for minors to participate within paintball safely.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS 2015-2016

L.Hamet with the assistance of the EPBF Secretary Viktoriya Sarantseva explained the Earnings and Expenses in 2015-2016.  
See the Summary Tables below.

#### EPBF Summary 2015

|   | <b>Earnings</b>  | <b>Expenses</b>  |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Membership fees 2015 (15)                         | 13 000,00        |                  |
| Entry fee Veterans Championship (10)              | 5000,00          |                  |
| Entry fee Women`s Championship (8)                | 4250,00          |                  |
| Entry fee Man`s Championship (12)                 | 8800,00          |                  |
| Entry fee U19 Championship (8)                    | 4 250,00         |                  |
| Outstanding payments 2014                         | 11600,00         |                  |
| Sponsorship                                       | -                |                  |
| Advertising rights for EPBF attribute items usage | -                |                  |
| Investments, stock profits                        | -                |                  |
| Others  | -                |                  |
| Events organisation                               |                  | 22 800,00        |
| Trophies, Flags and Medals                        |                  | 985,50           |
| Administration Expenses                           |                  | 5629,24          |
| Printing production (banners, posters, flyers)    |                  | 683,00           |
| Office expenses                                   |                  | -                |
| Website costs                                     |                  | 18,00            |
| Audit fees  |                  | -                |
| Bank charges                                      |                  | -                |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>46 900,00</b> | <b>31 649,74</b> |
| <b>Balance</b>                                    |                  | <b>15 250,26</b> |

There are €6650 outstanding from this year, and €11600 outstanding payments from 2013/2014 years, covering our debts to Millennium Series for the events organization from last years.

#### EPBF Summary 2016

|                           | <b>Earnings</b> | <b>Expenses</b> |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Membership fees 2016 (15) | 10 000,00       |                 |

|   |                  |                  |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Entry fee Veterans Championship (10)              | 5500,00          |                  |
| Entry fee Women`s Championship (6)                | 3000,00          |                  |
| Entry fee Man`s Championship (16)                 | 11950,00         |                  |
| Entry fee U19 Championship (8)                    | 3500,00          |                  |
| Outstanding payments 2015                         | 4750,00          |                  |
| Sponsorship                                       | -                |                  |
| Advertising rights for EPBF attribute items usage | -                |                  |
| Investments, stock profits                        | -                |                  |
| Others  | -                |                  |
| <hr/>   |                  |                  |
| Events organisation                               |                  | 22 050,00        |
| Trophies, Flags and Medals                        |                  | 1089,00          |
| Administration Expenses                           |                  | 4974,37          |
| Printing production (banners, posters, flyers)    |                  | 77,35            |
| Office expenses                                   |                  | -                |
| Website costs                                     |                  | -                |
| Audit fees  |                  | -                |
| Bank charges                                      |                  | 30,30            |
| <hr/>   |                  |                  |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>38 700,00</b> | <b>28 221,02</b> |
| <b>Balance</b>                                    |                  | <b>10 478,98</b> |

There are €12450.00 unpaid debts this year, including €4750.00 outstanding payments from 2015.

L.Hamet ended by explaining that all the debts EPBF has at the moment are because the members refuse to pay their financial obligations in time (membership fee or entry fee), and some do not pay it at all. Some debts cannot be claimed anymore, so they are lost, but some can still be paid. It concerns membership fees from 2015, owed by Turkish Shooting and Hunting Federation and Azerbaijan Paintball Federation. Both the Federations are not active and not interested in cooperation with EPBF anymore. Debts from 2016 owed by Belgian Paintball Federation can still be claimed, if the Federation wants to continue the cooperation with EPBF.

The Polish Federation also did not pay membership fee and entry fees for several years in a row. Tomasz Matuszchewski explained that the Federation was facing financial problems for several years, but they are ready to cover all the debts as long as they can be members in 2017, and if the repayment of debt can be spread over the next 3 years.

The attendees agreed to reschedule the 2014-2015 years debts for Polish Paintball Federation.

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

**Resolved:**

1. Financial reports from 2015-2016 are approved.
2. Polish Paintball Federation can restore their membership in 2017. All the debts from 2014-2015 should be paid in 3 years.

## FINANCIAL FORECAST 2017

### Sponsorship in 2017

L.Hamet mentioned that based on the 2016 year experience, EPBF cannot rely on the industry support. In 2016 there was a try to involve sponsors to the EPBF events, but as shown, we got no financial support from paintball businesses. The reason is a current bad economic situation and when companies lose money in paintball, they cannot invest anymore in sport development.

### **Entry fee for World Championships in 2017**

After a short discussion about the ways to compose the 2017 budget, the attendees agreed that entry fee for the EPBF events should be increased for non-affiliated Federations, to make the difference bigger and to stimulate European Federations to affiliate with EPBF.

Following prices were decided for the World Championships in 2017:

| # | Category | Affiliated | Non-affiliated |
|---|----------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | Veterans | €500       | €1000          |
| 2 | Women`s  | €500       | €1000          |
| 3 | Men`s    | €600       | €1200          |
| 4 | U19      | €?         | €1000          |

Also discussed was a possibility to give the affiliation National Federation a priority to send their U19 teams to participate with no entry fee changes, to stimulate the youths sport developing.

### **Financial forecast for 2017 approval**

Taking into account all the changes about financial forecast for 2017, the present came to the conclusion that the end of year balance should be positive if all the members fulfill their financial duties in time.

Approving the Financial Forecast for 2017 was put to a vote.

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

## **ELECTION OF THE EPBF PRESIDENT, GENERAL SECRETARY, TREASURER, VICE-PRESIDENTS AND COMMISSIONS.**

### **Election of the EPBF President**

Nominated: Ainsley Baddeley.

**Voting results:** For – 9, Against – 0, Abstained – 1.

### **Election of the EPBF Senior Vice-President**

Nominated: Ulrich Staehr.

**Voting results:** For – 9, Against – 0, Abstained – 1.

### **Election of the EPBF General Secretary**

Nominated: Laurent Hamet.

**Voting results:** For – 9, Against – 0, Abstained – 1.

### **Election of the EPBF Treasurer**

Nominated: Stephen Baldwin.

**Voting results:** For – 9, Against – 0, Abstained – 1.

### **Election of the 5 EPBF Vice-presidents:**

Nominated:

1. Manfred Ulrich,
2. Laurent Capron,
3. Tomasz Matuszewski,
4. Uldis Berzins,
5. Kerem Barcool,
6. Barry Fuggle

**Voting results:** For – 9, Against – 0, Abstained – 1.

### **Composing of the EPBF Commissions:**

**The Rules, Referees, Disciplinary and Ethic Commission:**

1. Ulrich Staehr – the Chairman,

**Voting results:** For – 9, Against – 0, Abstained – 1.

Important task: to compose the Commission till 31th of March.

**The Competitions Commission includes:**

1. Ainsley Baddeley – the Chairman,

Important task: to compose the Commission till 31th of March.

**The Paintball Sport Strategy Committee includes:**

1. Kerem Barcool – the Chairman,

Important tasks:

- to compose the Council till 31th of March;
- to work on the EPBF affiliation strategy.

**Resolved:**

1. Election results:

- President: Ainsley Baddeley
- Senior Vice-President: Ulrich Staehr
- General Secretary: Laurent Hamet
- Treasurer: Stephen Baldwin
- Vice-Presidents: Manfred Ulrich, Laurent Capron, Tomasz Matuszewski, Uldis Berzins, Kerem Barcool, Barry Fuggle.

2. Commissions composed:

- Ulrich Staehr – Chairman of the Rules, Referees, Disciplinary and Ethic Commission (Important task: compose the Commission till 31th of March),
- Ainsley Baddeley – Chairman of the Competitions Commission (Important tasks: compose the Commission till 31th of March).
- Kerem Barcool – Chairman of the Paintball Sport Strategy Committee (Important tasks: compose the Committee till 31th of March, to work on the EPBF affiliation strategy)

## EPBF EVENTS IN 2017

Taking into account popularity of the World Cup held in different categories and request from National teams all around the world to continue with this format in 2017, the EPBF Congress approved the EPBF events in 2017 to be held as the World Championships in 4 categories: Veterans, Women`s, Men`s and U19.

The Executive Committee members decided to locate the World Championship events the same way as it was done in 2016 and to link it to Millennium Series events.

**Decisions made:**

1. To organize the EPBF events in 2017 at the following dates and locations:
  - World Championship Veterans – March 24-26 in Puget-sur-Argens (France);
  - World Championship Women`s – May 12-14 in Bitburg (Germany);
  - World Championship Men`s – 30.06-02.07 in London (UK);
  - World Championship U19 – September 15-17 in Chantilly (France).
2. Format of the World Championships: Race-to-4, M500.
3. World Championships in 2017 in all the categories are to be held based on the current EPBF Rules Book.

## **ID CARDS SYSTEM**

Laurent Hamet informed the attendees that there will be a new ID cards system working at the Millennium events in 2017. The pilot version will be represented by PB Results on the first Millennium event. The idea is to test the system at the Millennium events with a possibility to share the system to all European countries through the EPBF.

The system provides the organizers with all the arrangements needed for the event, by offering such options like players and teams' registration, automatic schedules, generating and running the games with scores and tournaments results counting. It will help to run the events from the beginning to the end.

National Federations will be able to use the system for local events and even to share it for affiliated local clubs.

## **INTERCONTINENTAL CUP**

In order to promote National Federations and to help them in developing the local tournaments, the attendees discussed a possibility to organize the Intercontinental Cup with the club teams participated. The idea was to take the best teams per country based on the local Championship results.

Taking into account all the issues with organizing of such event, like lack of time for teams and Federations, lack of finances and big expenses on the event's organization, the attendees agreed to get back to this idea in the future.

## **NEW DIRECTIONS**

In order to develop the paintball in Europe, Laurent Hamet highlighted to the attendees that there is a need to find the new directions, and looking to the future by developing the youths sport. EPBF should focus on the program of bringing new players in paintball, and the only possibility for that is to push the youths sport development.

A lot of National Federations already have a program of working with youths, like France, Latvia, Poland, Turkey, UK and Russia. They can share their experience

Everyone agreed with importance of bringing youths in paintball and to give them opportunity to develop. To help National Federations with the promotion of paintball among youths and to work on this direction, the attendees decided to provide the affiliated National Federation with a possibility to send the U19 teams to the World Cup U19 in 2017 with no entry fee charges.

This should be the first step to the new direction.

## **OTHER**

### **EPBF Rules changes**

One more urgent issue to approve was about the necessary Rule changes for 2017. The issue was with winner's identification in overtime draw which needed to be overviewed. Due to the situation happened recently during the World Cup U19 in Chantilly when the overtime draw situation has been decided by the tournament seeding and caused serious problems.

All the attendees agreed to replace the current text of the point 8.16.4 in EPBF Rules book to a new one:

- "If the 5 minute overtime results in a stalemate, the two teams will each select a player to compete in a One-on-One. The One-on-One will be 2-minutes and is sudden death; the first player to eliminate the opposing player or hit the buzzer at the opponent's base will win the match.
- If both players are still alive at the end of 2 minutes, the one nearest their opponents start base will win the match.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

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

Laurent Hamet  
General Secretary  
European Paintball Federation

Ainsley Baddeley  
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.