

**MINUTES OF THE WMA GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN RICCIONE,
ITALY, 11TH SEPTEMBER 2007**

PRESENT:

WMA Council

Cesare Beccalli (CB) President, Monty Hacker (MH) Executive Vice-President), Rex Harvey (RH) Vice-President Stadia, Brian Keaveney (BK) Vice President Non-Stadia, Friedel Schunk (FS) Treasurer, César Moreno Bravo (CMB) IAAF Representative, Marina Hoernecke-Gil (MHG) Women's Representative, Jean Edmond (JE) Africa Representative, Hari Chandra (HC) Asia Representative, Dieter Massin (DM) Europe Representative, Stan Perkins (STP) Oceania Representative, Sandy Pashkin (SP) North & Central America & Caribbean Representative, José Figueras (JF) South America Representative and Winston Thomas (WT) Secretary

Delegates:

The following WMA Affiliates listed below, by region, following 4 (n) of the WMA constitution gave proper and timely notice of their delegates who, in turn, had automatic voting rights. However several of these delegates did not register at the registration desk which caused some later problems that needed resolving.

- Africa (3):

South Africa (1), Mauritius (1), Senegal (1)

- Asia (8):

China PR (1) Japan (2), India (2), Malaysia (1), Singapore (1), Sri Lanka (1),

- Europe (50):

Austria (2) Belgium (2), Czech Republic (2), Denmark (1), Estonia (2), Finland (3), France (5), Germany (5), Gt Britain & N. Ireland (4), Greece (1), Ireland (1), Italy (4), Latvia (1), Norway (2), Netherlands (2), Poland (1), Portugal (2), Spain (5), Sweden (2), Switzerland (2), Turkey (1).

- North and Central America & the Caribbean (18):

Canada (3), USA (5), Jamaica (1), Mexico (4) Puerto Rico (4), Trinidad & Tobago (1).

- **Oceania (8):**

New Zealand 2), Australia (5). Norfolk Island (1)

- **South America (13):**

Argentina (1), Bolivia (1), Brazil (2), Chile (2), Colombia (2), Peru (2), Paraguay (1) Uruguay (1), Venezuela (1)

This 2nd group of delegates attended the assembly, had not given notice and had no automatic voting rights, and was later not given these rights.

- **Africa (2):** Cameroon, South Africa (1)

- **Europe (9)** Albania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Ireland (1), Lithuania, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia.

- **North and Central America & the Caribbean (2):**

Costa Rica, Honduras.

There was a request from the President that those delegates who had not been registered in a timely manner in terms of the provisions of clause 4 (n) of the Constitution be entitled to register and have voting rights at the Assembly. Discussion ensued as to whether this was a constitutional change requiring 2/3rd majority or a simple majority, it was decided that the necessary margin was 2/3rd. After more discussions and a passionate request from CMB, the matter was put to the vote, The Assembly voted by a majority against allowing these non-registered delegates to be allowed to register and vote.

As a result the number of registered eligible voting delegates in attendance, including the members of the Council was finally announced as 114.

The two thirds (2/3rd) majority being 76 for constitutional changes.

Guests:

Organizing Committees for RICCIONE.

LAHTI 2009 Stadia LOC, FIN.

CLERMONT-FERRAND 2008 Indoors 2008 LOC, FRA.

Stadia Bidders; Porto Alegre, BRA. And Sacramento, USA.

Jens V Holm (IMGA CEO)

Terry Reilley (WGM Sydney 2009 organizing committee).

1. OPENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The start of the Assembly was delayed for 35 minutes because of registration difficulties. Consequently the Assembly was opened at 9.35 am.

The President welcomed the Delegates, Guests and Observers outlining the nature of business to be dealt with.

2. CERTIFICATION OF THE PROPER CALLING OF THE ASSEMBLY:

The Secretary informed the Assembly that the meeting had been properly convened, notice thereof having been given both by e-mail and by surface mail on 5th March 2007. And had also sent reminders of the notification of delegates in July and August. The Chairman declared the Assembly properly convened.

This was then followed by the vote (mentioned above) not allowing the non-registered delegates to register and be given ballot papers.

3. ELECTION OF 2 SCRUTINEERS FOR THE MINUTES:

Marilyn Mitchell and Bob Schickert were appointed as the Minutes Scrutineers.

4. ELECTION OF COUNTERS FOR THE ASSEMBLY

Marilyn Mitchell USA, Bob Schickert AUS, Carrol DeWeese USA, and Josef Antentas, ESP were appointed as counters.

5. PRESENTATIONS BIDS FOR THE 2011 STADIA CHAMPIONSHIPS BY PORTO ALEGRE, BRA. SACRAMENTO, USA

The two bid presentations were well received by the Assembly, with several questions to both candidates.

The bids went to the ballot and the Assembly awarded the 2011 Stadia Championships to Sacramento USA.

Voting:	Sacramento	69
	Porto Alegre	39
	Abstentions	2
	Spoilt papers	4

Following the awarding of the championships to Sacramento there was a coffee break, and then a short video updates on future championships, 2008 Indoors in Clermont-Ferrand and the 2009 Stadia in Lahti, on their organization so far.

Clermont-Ferrand entry booklet was available at their stand in the stadium area.

Lahti, had many of their key personnel in attendance at the championships to gather first hand knowledge, and had information flyers at their stand.

6. SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

The following reports numbered 6.1 to 6.8 hereunder, contained in the General Assembly Booklet were addressed to the Assembly by the persons mentioned :

6.1 President, at pages 8 to 10;

The president added that WMA had Bayer Corporation as a first time sponsor at these championships.

Within the presidents report CMB, gave a brief update on IAAF and WMA relationship, he also mentioned the impact of the lack on interpretation at the current general assembly and our regional meetings and stressed we must try to remedy these problems for the future.

6.2 Executive Vice-President, at pages 11 to 12;

6.3 Vice President, Stadia at pages 13 to 14;

6.4 Vice-President Non-Stadia, at pages 15 to 20;

BK added his written report had not included the site visit he had made to Sacramento as this had been a late arrangement.

6.5 Secretary Report; at pages 21 to 22;

Secretary added to his report that following a letter from the IAAF all affiliates in future must have two contact names on their affiliation details, and new forms will be sent to all affiliates.

6.6 Women's Representative, at pages 27 to 28;

6.7 Treasurer, at pages 23 to 25;

6.8 Auditors' Report; at page 26;

7. Submission and approval of the auditor's report

Following some questions and a short update from the secretary all reports were approved by the assembly.

One of the major points by GB/NI to the treasurer concerned whether or not the performance bond was refunded to San Sebastian for the problems of non compliance of proper competition for the athletes, The treasurer said the full refund had been given, There was a stated desire to withhold the performance bond to Riccione LOC who have also not provided proper conditions for the athletes.

There was a query from NZL, about donations to worthy causes, and the criteria for such, answered by MH, the decision was at the time made on an "ad hoc" basis, there is no policy and any future request would be looked at similarly. BEL queried the item of unbudgeted Anti-doping costs, FS explained that a National Affiliate refused to hold a hearing on an anti-Doping violation and WMA held this and had to bear the costs. POR questioned the auditors report; this was also answered by the treasurer. SWE asked the president about the WMA Change of name from "Veterans" to masters in 1999, and the promised sponsorship. The president explained he was not in office at the time and could not speak on this issue.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The assembly was shown the new WMA Logo and voted overwhelming for the design which will be available for the next WMA Stadia Championships, and printed matters.

8. SUBMISSION OF REPORT ON WORLD MASTERS GAMES:

The president gave a verbal report on IMGA from which two proposals were made.

Proposal one: proposed by Bob Fine, USA, 2nd by AUS.

"The sense of the assembly is that we do not wish to have joint championships with IMGA".

Before the votes are taken the delegates are re-counted: Voting delegates and council became 79. 2/3rd Majority will be 53.

Votes: In favour over whelming majority

Proposal two:

RH proposed "that WMA council continues negotiations with IMGGA, and shall continue to co-operate on dates and other organizational matters". **2nd by USA**

Votes: In favour over whelming majority

9. SUBMISSION OF REPORT ON IAAF

Pages 29 to 30

CB outlines that we have a good relationship with IAAF.

CMB agrees with CB, and outlined the selection of WMA Best Master, male and female for the IAAF Gala. WMA Council to make the selection, this helps to show that IAAF and WMA are one family.

10. ELECTIONS: TO CONFIRM THE POSITION OF THE "ACTING SECRETARY"

WINSTON THOMAS.

The Assembly elected WT as secretary for the period up to the 2009 elections.

Votes: In favour Unanimous

The president announced that WMA silver pins would be awarded to the following persons:
Ron Bell, GB/NI. Peppo Galfetti, SUI, Thomas Jordan, USA and posthumously to Torsten Carlius, SWE.

11. AMENDMENTS TO THE WMA CONSTITUTION/BYE-LAWS and RULES OF COMPETITION:

Council proposals

Constitution:

(1) Constitution: 3. Affiliation

(1) New paragraph: Describe Affiliates' role in athletes' registration validation

Athletes must register for any master's athletics competition through their Affiliate which reviews the application for approval and validates their registration request upon receipt of fees due. Normally, the athletes' affiliate is his country of citizenship.

The motion is withdrawn by council.

(2) Constitution: 4. General .Assembly

(b) 1st sentence: after "for each 100" add- ("combined total")

Votes: In favour Unanimous

The proposal was passed

(3) Constitution: 4. (g)

Replace "Robert's Rules of order" with "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 10th Edition, in Brief".

Amendment by Stan Perkins, 2nd USA

Replace „Robert's Rules of order" with „Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition."

**Votes: In favour Majority
 Against 4**

The proposal was passed

- (4) Constitution: 5 Council
Add New Constitution clause 5(o):

The Council shall have the power to co-opt onto the Council not more than one member whose expertise in a particular field is deemed desirable and necessary for the efficient functioning of any particular aspect of the Council or any one or more of its committees.

AUS, FIN, CAN, spoke against the motion

Votes: **In favour**

 Against **Unanimous**

The proposal was defeated

- (5) Constitution. 6. Officers
Amendment to Clause 6(c)

The existing clause 6 (c) shall be deleted and the following substituted there for:

6 (c) No officer shall hold more than one office at any one time.

6 (c) (i). In the event of an officer failing to complete his term of office, the remaining Council's members shall, as soon as possible thereafter, and without waiting for the next formal Council meeting, cast votes (by means of either a conference call or electronic voting) and based on the simple majority of a quorum of the Council, appoint a temporary replacement to fill the vacancy created;

6 (c) (ii). The term of office of the appointed replacement shall expire upon the closure of the next quadrennial election General Assembly;

6 (c) (iii). The casting of votes shall take place within seven days of Council members being informed by the secretary of the nominations received by him for the vacant office within a maximum period of fourteen days after the vacancy occurring.

6(c) (iv). The term of office of all General Assembly elected Officers shall be for an initial term of four years, and they shall thereafter be subject to re-election to the same office at General Assembly for a further term of four years. However, No officer may hold the same office to which he/she has been elected for more than eight years in total. "from when 1st elected to that office".

GB/NI proposed an amendment, 2nd by GB/NI.
to retain the present wording in the current handbook 6c.
The proposed amendment was defeated. 36a 21f

STP, Proposed a 2nd amendment. 2nd by IRL
Final paragraph shall read as follow:
"from when first elected to that office".

Votes: In favour Unanimous

The amendment is passed

The proposal is voted on

**Votes: In favor Majority
Against 5**

The proposal is passed

- (6) Constitution. Amend 7 (f) Treasurer:
In sub-section (f) iv, substitute "semi-annually" for
"annually".

Replace current (f)(v) with: Treasurer to prepare P+L + B/S
annually for distribution to council, "The Secretary shall
distribute them to the affiliates"

FRA made a friendly amendment, which was accepted as shown
("The Secretary will distribute them to the affiliates")

vii = delete; obsolete because of electronic bank transfers

Votes: In favour Unanimous

The proposal is passed

- (7) Constitution. 11. Eligibility
add to (11): re-number as b, and then c-d-e follows)
Athletes must register through the Affiliate of their own
country of citizenship; if the athlete's country of
citizenship does not maintain and properly operate a WMA
Affiliation the athlete may register directly with the LOC
upon having received consent from WMA.

This proposal was withdrawn by council

BYE-LAWS

At this point the custodian announced that the auditorium would close in 30 minutes. DM spoke on lack of time and delegates left in the auditorium and asks that the assembly be disbanded. FIN, FRA, also agreed, FRA asked that the council be censored for the conduction of the general assembly. Following comments from USA and SP a motion was put by STP: To have the By Laws left in abeyance, the rules of Competition be reviewed by the committees and cancelled or brought back at the next general assembly.

2nd by AUS.

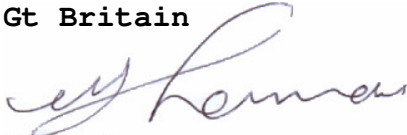
Votes:	In favour	Unanimous	
22-11-07		Against	0

The motion was passed

CB Closed the general assembly

Signed

Winston Thomas
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Gt Britain

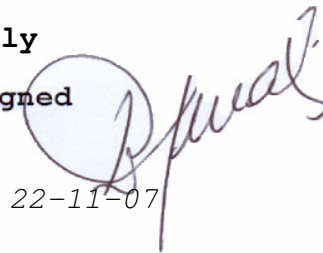


Signed

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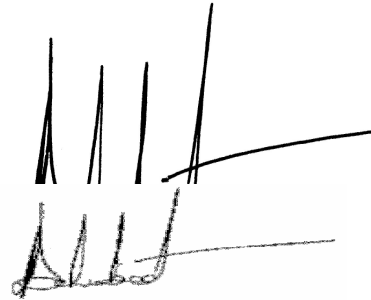
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Signed



22-11-07

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Signed

08-12-07