

WMA GENERAL ASSEMBLY LAHTI. FINLAND 2009

Fellmanni Kongress Hall

MINUTES OF WMA LAHTI GENERAL ASSEMBLY 5th AUGUST 2009

Held at the : Fellmanni Kongress Hall. Lahti.

Meeting commenced 09.00

PRESENT:

WMA Council

Tom Jordan, Acting President (Meeting Chairman), USA. Rex Harvey, USA. Vice-President Stadia. Brian Keaveney, CAN, Vice President Non-Stadia, Friedel Schunk, GER, Treasurer, César Moreno Bravo, MEX, IAAF Representative, Marina Hoernecke-Gil, ESP, Women's Representative, Jean Edmond MRI, Africa Representative, C Jeyapandiyen, SIN, Asia Representative, Dieter Massin, GER, Europe Representative, Stan Perkins AUS, Oceania Representative, Sandy Pashkin USA, North Central & Caribbean Representative, José Figueras URU, South America Representative and Winston Thomas, GBR, Secretary.

Delegates

The following WMA Affiliates listed below, by region, following 4 (n) of the WMA constitution gave proper notice of their delegates who, in turn, had automatic voting rights. Several of these delegates arrived very late at the registration desk which caused some problems that needed resolving.

- Africa (6):

Algeria (1), Egypt (1), Mauritius (1), Cameroon (1) South Africa (2),

- Asia (9):

China PR (1), Hong Kong (1), India (3), Japan (2), Phillipines (1), Sri Lanka (1),

- Europe (59):

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

- North and Central & the Caribbean (18):

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

- Oceania (12):

American Samoa (1)Australia (4), Cook Island (1), Guam (1) Rep of Kiribati (1) New Zealand 2), Norfolk Island (1), Northern Marianas Island (1).

- South America (10):

Argentina (1), Bolivia (1), Brazil (2), Chile (2), Colombia (2), Paraguay (1) Uruguay
(Note: there were 114 delegates registered at the beginning of the day, one delegate did not collect a voting unit and simultaneous translation unit)

Guests:

Organizing Committees Lahti 2009
Indoor Bidder for WMA 2012 Championships, Jyväskylä, Finland
Stadia Bidder for WMA 2013 Championships, Porto Alegre, Brazil

1. **Opening of the general Assembly.**

Tom Jordan, as the Acting President and the meeting Chairman, “Chair”, welcomed members and asked that all mobile phones be switched off. Reported a change in the time table for the coffee break, moved to 10.55. Asked the Secretary to explain the details of the Simultaneous Translation system

Winston Thomas: Simultaneous translation is being provided as follows: channel 1 (English), channel 2 (French) and channel 3 (Spanish). Only delegates should be seated in the first six (6) rows A to F. Guests are allocated Rows G and H at the rear. Tom Jordan spoke on the Lahti General Assembly Procedures to be used, with *Roberts Rules of Order* as a basis, as required by the WMA Constitution: the procedures were shown on Screen.

The Chair must recognize anyone who wishes to speak.

All remarks must be made to the chair and not to other delegates.

On all motions, the chair will alternate between speakers in favour and those in opposition.

A delegate may only speak a second time on a motion when all other delegates wishing to speak have done so.

Each speaker will be limited to two minutes per speech during debate.

Voting shall be done electronically if there are any difficulties with the electronic voting, either a voice vote or rising vote (the delegates stand) will be employed.

Generally motions are approved on a majority basis.

A majority is determined by the number of people voting and not by the number of people present.

Any ruling by the chair may be appealed. Such a ruling requires a “second”, whereby a second delegate endorses the request for an Appeal made by the first delegate.

The Secretary explained electronic voting procedure. For voting only channels 1 or 2 will be used. Delegates are not to press the buttons until so instructed. Electronic units have been assigned randomly and results are anonymous.

The system was tested, with members being asked to press number “1”. The count at the present is 115. This is the first time that WMA has used the electronic system and if it is successful, it will be used in the future.

A second test of system was made: Test #2 was the confirmation of attendance. The number was 117, with the addition of two more delegates who entered late. The total votes will be **117** (Note: 9 delegates were admitted later in the meeting) The Chair continued the meeting with:

2. **Certification of Proper Calling of Assembly:**

The delegates present have been registered by the Secretary as the representatives of their affiliates. First, are there any objection to using this as the proper calling of the assembly? Hearing no objections, the President asked that as all agreed unanimously this constituted the Assembly. **Agreed.**

2.1 Chair recognised the delegate from Great Britain/NI. Bridget Cushen, who understands that there is a delegate from Iran who is affiliated but is not listed and the person who has arrived is now requesting to be seated. Chair responded citing Rule 4.2.5 of the Handbook says that delegates names need to be submitted to the secretary by 30 days before the Assembly. However, there are exceptions and the council decided that if someone were listed as the contact for their affiliate and if they talked to the Secretary ahead of time and indicated that they should be seated, the Council would agree to this. The Council decided that no one who arrived the day of the Assembly under these circumstances would be seated. The gentleman from Iran had been in contact with the Secretary regarding visa procurement but no information was given concerning his being a delegate.

2.2 Carroll DeWeese, Delegate (USA): Moved that the gentleman from Iran be seated in the spirit of openness because this is a single instance; second by Bridget Cushen. Ireland also has a delegate that has not been seated.

Jean Gracia. France. Asking that the microphones be used as not everyone can understand English, then spoke against the inclusion of an unregistered delegates, he said we have also discussed this issue in Riccione and he did not think that we should repeat the situation. There are rules and the rules are to be respected.

Serge Beckers delegate (Belgium) also agreed with the points of Mr Gracia.

Clarification from the Chair, The Constitution does not stipulate the consequences, does not say that someone may not be seated if their name is not submitted within 30 days.

2.3 Chair called for a hand vote from Delegates only.

36 in favour and 59 against and therefore the delegate from Iran and others will not be seated as a delegate.

Chair asked for any others matters, hearing none. Chair states that this is a properly constituted assembly, **agreed by delegates.**

3. **Election of two Scrutineers for the Minutes.**

Bob Schickert and Marilyn Mitchell were certified by vote of the General Assembly as scrutineers for the minutes.

4. **Election of two persons to count the votes**

Bob Schickert and Marilyn Mitchell were certified as the two vote counters

5. **Bid Presentations for Future World Championships**

5.1 2012 Indoor Championships. Jyvaskyla, Finland :

There was a presentation by the Mayor of Jyväskylä. Jyväskylä is looking forward to holding the 2012 Championships, Has the only faculty of sports in Finland. Jyvaskyla is used to holding International Competition and has many thousand visitors from all

over the world and they have every confidence in organising events. Others involved in the bid presentation included:

Mr. Markku Andersoon;	Mayor of Jyväskylä
Mr. Pekka Sihvonen;	ports Manager of Jyväskylä
Mr. Markku Koistenen;	General Secretary of Jyväskylä Track and field Club
Mr. Esa Kaihlajarvi;	general Secretary of Bidding Committee
Ms. Tula Poutanen;	Director of Jyväskylä Convention Bureau

The main venue, Hippos Hall in Hippos Sports Centre, is about one kilometre from the City Centre.

The road race course is 300 meters from Hippos Hall.

The half marathon will be run by the lakes, where Finlandia Marathon is annually held.

A preliminary schedule has already been prepared. Competition and meeting rooms are available in same facility.

Hotel Rooms: the LOC has already blocked off more than 2,000 hotel rooms.

Gateway to the Games: One flies to Helsinki or to Tampere and then flies onward or takes the train or bus.

Following the presentation, Maurice Duggan delegate (GB/NI): asked to return to photograph of indoor arena where it appears to be a four-lane flat track. Reply: The curves are banked. Yes this is correct but it can be raised or lowered.

Serge Beckers delegate (Belgium): Queried are you planning to have six lanes on the curves? Reply: No.

The planned dates are March 26-31, 2012 but the first preference of the organizers is April 3-8, 2012, because prices will be cheaper. It is also easier to get volunteers in first week of April than in the last week of March.

Gary Snyder, delegate (USA): Expressed concern about the four-lane track.

Chair puts the proposition to assembly that Jyväskylä, Finland be the site for the 2012 WMA Indoor Championships.

Approved by overwhelming voice vote.

Organising rights were awarded by vote of the General Assembly to the City of Jyväskylä, Finland, with the preferred date April 3-8, 2012

Carroll DeWeese delegate (USA): proposed that WMA use the voting system and not other voting methods for the remainder of the General Assembly.

2013 World Masters Championships Stadia. PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL

Porto Alegre bid presentation with, Graziela Padoin, Sinara Lourdez Zorzo. Francisco Hypolito da Silveira, of ABRAM and other members of the LOC from the Brazilian Embassy, Porto Alegre Municipality and the Congress Organisers and Managements. Presenter said that this would be the first time that the championships would be in South America.

Porto Alegre, Brazil proposed dates of July 24 to August 4, 2013, for the WMA outdoor championships.

ABRAM (Brazilian Association of Masters Athletics), has more than 1000 athlete members

Porto Alegre has more than 800 volunteers, 140 Referees and proposes 15 foreign guest officials, as well as number of the 500 officials in Brazil.

PUCRS Campus Central will be the main venue.

SOGIPA is the second stadium, close to airport and a shopping mall.

CETE sports training centre will be used for training only.

ESEF: facility for training and for throwing competitions.

Non-stadia competition: cross country will take place in Marinha do Brazil.

There are at least two hotels, a shopping mall and a hospital in the very close vicinity of the non-stadia events.

Gasometro: site of the marathon and 20k road walk.

Accommodation, there are up to 19.000 available rooms, and 3 star accommodations starts from \$44.00

Porto Alegre is easily reached by flight from other cities.

Visa: not required for 111 of the WMA affiliates. Brazil only requires visas of countries who ask for visas from Brazilians.

Free shuttle bus. Regular transportation system at a charge.

5.2.1 Questions

Maurice Duggan, Delegate (Great Britain): The proposed time of the championship is the rainy season. Is it possible that the underground car park could be part of warm-up facilities?

Reply: temperature is normally 6 to 20 degrees Centigrade. It can rain, but it does not rain a lot. The rainy season is January to March. Facilities could be covered.

Ann Gormley, (Ireland): at what time would competition take place? Reply : 8:00am to 6:00pm

Serge Beckers, (Belgium): What about free transportation for athletes not booking accommodation with the LOC. Reply: There will be free shuttle buses from hotels.

The chair proposed a vote on Porto Alegre bid:

117 in favour and 5 against.

Chair declares that the bid from Porto Alegre is accepted.

Organising rights were awarded by vote of the General Assembly to the City of Porto Alegre for the 2013 World Masters Championships Stadia.

Jean Thomas, France. Thinks it is unfair that voting procedures for the two bids were different. (One by hands and one by electronic)

Chair expressed his point is well taken, and goes on to explain addition delegates had arrived and there are now 122 votes,

6. **Opening remarks from the Acting President. And Submission and approval of Reports.**

The Chair outlined that Council members would only make additional comments to the reports in the GA Handbook

6.1 **Report from Monty Hacker:**

Chair spoke on the report and said as Acting President he had sent questionnaire to the Council members asking what pressing issues were facing the council.

1) **Lack of bidding Cities.** Today's two bidders were great and Lahti is excellent, but we need to have more bidding cities and we need to have a true competition to see the best site for our Championships.

2) **Need for a complete reorganization of WMA,** i.e., Constitution, makeup of Council, various duties assigned to the various members. He thinks this is a good idea and will be asking the assembly to mandate the new President to appoint a three (3) person committee to look at reorganization plans and put to Council next year for discussion and when approved put to the GA in Sacramento 2011.

6.2 **Rex Harvey, Vice President Stadia (USA):**

Thanks to the Stadia Committee, the LOC in Lahti and thanks the General Assembly for the past eight years.

Jean Gracia, (France). Asked the stadia VP about cooperation with LOC's and working with championship organizers in the set up of Championships.

Chair acknowledges the points. Ivar Soderlind, (Sweden): Queried the age-grading tables. The tables have not been submitted to the affiliates and there was not enough consultation. There will also be problems re-calculating records.

Rex Harvey in reply: The age-graded tables are only changed on an eight-year schedule and he realizes that all records will have to be recalculated and that it is time-consuming. The rationale is that the athletes are getting better and WMA wants the tables to reflect what the athletes can do.

Mr Soderlind said he was concerned that there was no discussion on the new tables, and about the changes in weights. Mr. Harvey in reply said the Age-grading committee and the Stadia committee will need to work together on this.

6.3 **Brian Keaveney, Vice President Non-Stadia:**

The report is in the book and on the website. There will be a new website within a few weeks. The weather has become a huge factor in planning for the non-stadia events in the championships in the last years. There is a revised non-stadia handbook on the website. Mr. Keaveney thinks that other events such as mountain running should come within the realm of the WMA and he will work on this.

6.4 **Winston Thomas, Secretary:**

Expressed his thanks to the regional secretary present in Lahti and helping him in sorting out some of their Delegates before the GA. And hope that in the coming period we will have no delegates being omitted from the GA

Rene Honderlink (Nederland): Would like to have the minutes in the GA booklet for the delegates to see and on the agenda for approval. Replying the Secretary said that this had not been previously done but he will put this issue to the council.

Reply from Chair: The minutes are on the WMA website.

Serge Beckers, (Belgium): Said what has happened with the delegate of Iran and with other delegates designated by their affiliates who were not allowed to vote for various reasons, that they should be informed in a timely manner of the situation, as not all the affiliates and delegates read and understand the Constitution. The Chair noted the comments.

6.5 **Marina Hoernecke-Gil (WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE):**

The report is in English, German and French and a Spanish version was given out at the women's meeting. We speak about world championships, we have two parts

1) The level as to performances but also the obligation that all the athletes of different countries and regions enter well and are fit, taking in consideration circumstances and the characteristics that prevail in different regions.

2) We know it is not easy to follow and understand, amendments, bye-laws and constitutions never the less in working for the Women this has been seriously considered within her committee, and within the constitution under "purpose" point 2.4" to foster international friendship", etc. This paragraph fully fit her "dream team" of Women, and she is honored in the last eight years to be the chairperson for this committee. She sends her best wishes to the new candidates, and to all delegates and her athletics friends everywhere, a thank you.

Jean Gracia, delegate of France thanked Marina, for the years of service from the bottom of our hearts.

6.6 **Friedel Schunk, Treasurer:**

The report is short and can be read in the book. WMA is on a cash-basis in its recording system. There was an accounting surplus of \$21,400 due to a successful championship in Clermont-Ferrand and the conversion of the Euro to US dollars. There is an approved budget for the new period 2009-2010 and revenues of \$268,000 and expenses of \$264,000 rendering a marginal surplus. Several question were asked on the budget:

6.6.1 Ivar Soderlind delegate from Sweden inquired about the sponsorship figures, who is sponsor and how did you get it: Reply from the Treasurer the sponsorship was the result of work by Cesare Beccalli and the company is Bayer, the pharmaceutical company.

6.6.2 Nicola Maggio delegate from Italy questioned on the balance sheet the Investment, the term of the bonds and the risks. From the Treasurer this is outlined in the auditors report and can be looked at with the report.

Asking a second question from the accounts he wanted to know the number of doping control tests paid for. Through the Chair, this was ruled inappropriate; the information was not for public knowledge.

6.6.3 Jean Thomas delegate from France asked concerning the presentation by the Treasurer and a proposal for the next Treasurer, could we give a two-year presentation of profit/loss account the next time so that we could compare the two years.

After some explanation on the correct points of Mr Thomas, the Treasurer expressed this would not be a problem.

6.6.4 Dick Dunston, delegate Norfolk Island Looking at return on investment figures and amount reported is diminished from the budget. Reply from Mr. Schunk, Treasurer: investment income is about 4% to 5% per year and securities mature in the next few years.

Continuing Dick Dunston, asked about the diminishing of funds from safe custody fees, transactions, etc. Mr. Dunston wants a breakdown. He says that investments that would be made in his part of the world would carry no transaction and safe custody charges. He wants to know if the Council could find investments of similar return with lower charges. At this point the chair interrupted the delegate, his two minutes were expired. The matter will be discussed during the auditor's report.

6.6.5 Melton Diaz delegate of Puerto Rico, as an accountant, knows the great effort that goes into the presentation. One of the best presentations that he has seen as an accountant. Two questions: (1) is there a difference between Swiss auditing board and US auditing board? (2) Were performance bonds made in cash or as insurance bonds? Mr. Schunk, Treasurer: Is the question why we are operating with Swiss bank and not an American bank.

The Treasurer explained that the performance bonds are cash payments for a guarantee of performance from the LOC's that championships will be conducted in the manner contractually agreed upon for non-performance issues. It is a wire transfer cash deposit, which will be paid back if everything is done according to the contract.

He does not think there is a difference between the Swiss procedure and the US auditing procedure. We use them the auditors because they were in place when Mr. Schunk took office four years ago. The then-treasurer was in Switzerland and there was a cost-advantage to using the Swiss firm. If we use an American firm, there would be significant cost increases.

6.6.7 Nicola Maggio delegate from Italy assumes that performance the bond money is invested. Is there a loss on the performance bond from Lahti. Treasurer, No the bonds are not individually invested.

Vern Christensen delegate of Canada: As an accountant, I suggest that we move on to other items. Because there is enough money to repay the performance bonds, it is not really necessary to discuss further. Re auditors, we should not change auditors because there should be consistency. But, would it be possible to go to an accrual basis instead of a cash basis? But I do not think that you need to answer that today. Chair, this concludes the reports.

Chair, Tom Jordan requests a moment of silence for Cesare Beccalli and all of the other officials who are no longer with us.

MOMENT OF SILENCE.

Point 10: Coffee break was taken

6.6.8 Following the break the Treasurer explained the transaction fees which were about \$2000/year for the transactions, mostly related to the wire transfer costs.

Dick Dunston, delegate Norfolk Island asked did accountant say that some of those charges do not relate to the normal investments but relate to separate charges and should they not be shown as separate items in the presentation.

Rene Honderlink delegate of Nederland asked what the costs for one doping test are. Treasurer: The costs vary from country to country and range from 250 euros to

500 euros per test. I do not think I can give a genuine answer which holds for all of the tests.

Chair, Tom Jordan: Requests motion to approve auditor's report.

Motion to approve auditor's report.

Seconded, CAN.

HAND VOTE: overwhelmingly approved.

8. **Submission of report on World Masters Games**

Rex Harvey, Report on World Masters Games ("WMG"): the WMA General Assembly in Riccione had some concerns about the World Masters Games and the Assembly voted to not become a part of the WMG organization. In fact, WMG does not want WMA to put our championship into their games. Their aim is participation and is more of a grass roots effort whereas WMA's objective is more about competition. He attended the WMG meeting in Denver at the sport accord and talked with some of the Directors and his conclusion is that WMA has more to gain from IMGGA than it would lose to IMGGA. IMGGA are excellent marketers and they have a better grass roots operation than WMA. WMA agreed formally in Riccione that we would continue communication with this group. He also thinks WMA should also stay in contact with the Senior Games and other such multi-sport organizations.

Wilma Perkins, delegate Australia: whether we like it or not a large number of athletes do both games and she is very concerned that WMA should promote the use of IAAF and WMA rules in the athletics component of the World Masters Games. Is this not a time for WMA to take advantage to have access to those names so that WMA can have access to those athletes that do not belong to us but are individuals who do their own thing and these are a wonderful source of people for us to attract to our sport.

9. **Submission of report on the IAAF**

Cesar Moreno Bravo gave a report from the GA Booklet in Spanish, expressing greetings from Mr. Lamine Diack, IAAF president, who is aware of everything which WMA is doing in the promotion of sport. At this highest level, the relationship is very good but we need to work on other levels. We have not enough communication with Africa. Another issue: we need national interchanges. The position of the IAAF Masters Committee was the following on the age group change: we do not agree to change the masters age to protect any individuals. If we change the age limit, we should then get rid of that age limit in this championship. What does this Assembly want? Rule 141 says that a masters athlete is a person who turns 35 years old and this is what the IAAF masters committee voted against. Now we want to know what WMA thinks.

Chair, Tom Jordan: Does the Assembly want to continue with the currently-existing age groups.

Carroll DeWeese, Delegate (USA) proposed a motion to leave things as they are for WMA Events. Second by USA.

Several delegates spoke on keeping the age groups as they presently stand, no delegate spoke against.

Delegate from Chile: with regards to what Mr. Moreno mentioned, I do not see any difficulty with the fact of protecting some athletes and abandoning other athletes. Drzlatan Hrelja delegate from Bosnia and Herzegovina thanks IAAF because his country uses the resources extended to them by the IAAF.

Chair, Tom Jordan: called the question, hand vote.

All those in favor of keeping the age group for Men and Women 35

Motion Carried

11. **ELECTIONS:**

The Chair explained to the GA, Candidates will speak and there will be no question/answer period. We will go from the top, office-by-office, alphabetical presentation.

President: Rex Harvey 61: Stan Perkins 62: Total votes cast: 123

Stan Perkins is elected President

Executive Vice President: Vesa Lappalainen 72: Friedel Schunk 50

Total votes cast: 122 votes

Vesa Lappalainen is elected Executive Vice President

Vice President Stadia: Serge Beckers 67: Sandy Pashkin 56

Total votes cast: 123 votes

Serge Beckers is elected Vice President Stadia

Vice President Non Stadia: Unanimous consent for election of Brian Keaveney (hand vote).

Secretary: Unanimous consent for election of Winston Thomas (hand vote).

Treasurer: Mr. Schunk withdrew his candidacy as Treasurer. The vote was then stated as a vote for or against the other candidate,

Francesco de Feo 78 in favour. 39 against. Total votes cast 117

Francesco de Feo is elected Treasurer

Women's Representative

1st votes: Marilyn Mitchell 48: Lynne Schickert 29: Selma Turkkal 46:

Lynne Schickert is eliminated: Total votes cast 123.

2nd votes: Marilyn Mitchell 58: Selma Turkkal 67: 123 total votes cast

Selma Turkkal is elected Women's Representative

12. **Election of WMA Honorary Members**

The Members below were approved by the Assembly by a hand vote:

LIFE MEMBER: Marina Hoernecke-Gil

BRONZE PIN: Norm Coop (NZL): Hannelore Gushmann (BEL) : Brian Oxley (CAN): Karri Wichmann (FIN)

13. **Lunch Break**

14. **Status Report Indoors 2010, Kamloops BC Canada.**

Brian Keaveney showed a PowerPoint presentation on behalf of Kamloops, outlining the Indoor facilities, Outdoor Winter throws, Road and Cross Country facilities, training areas, accommodation, officials, helpers, transport and travel to Kamloops. The City and LOC have worked together and have a community facility with many different sports area and facilities. Track 8 lane straight, 6 lanes round full throws and jump areas with extra PV and Long/Triple jump. 8 lane outdoor track an also be used for warm up dependant on the conditions. There is information on the website. www.kamloops2010masters.com

15. **Status Report Stadia 2011, Sacramento CA. USA**

John McCasey went through the Sacramento PowerPoint which had been given to delegates and athletes previously. He explained in details the transportation, Accommodation, costs and Competitions as this covered most all the main areas of questions. Overall things are well in advance and information on the website is regularly updated that had been asked before. Athletes can already book rooms through their agent. (Athletes not booking through them will not be disadvantaged.) Stadiums, officials, helpers are well in advance; they are working on the registration package already. Overall they are well ahead of the time schedule and will be visiting regional championships in 2010. No questions asked.

Website: www.wma2011.com

16. **Voting on Motions to Amend the WMA Constitution, Bye-Laws and Rules of Competition.**

The chair explained to the GA the procedure and guidelines for the attached motions that were carried from the GA in Riccione, which had been circulated to the affiliates for responses, and had either being approved by the Council, withdrawn by the Affiliates or open for discussion. Following no objections the first motion to be discussed was Motion 18;

General Assembly Motions from Riccione 2007

WMA Council Proposals

~~(9) Bye-Laws. 2 Council~~

(8) Delete existing. The Treasurer is authorised to pay an invoice from a travel agent for Council travel for an approved meeting in advance of that meeting.

Replace with: The Treasurer is authorised to reimburse council travel in accordance with a Travel and Expense Reimbursement policy established for that purpose.

Reason:

The Treasury function is a fiduciary obligation. Only expenses that have been properly documented after the expense has been incurred upon conclusion of the expense purpose will be accepted.

Added to the New Handbook

~~(10) Bye-Laws. 3 (3)(a) Anti-Doping & Medical — Replace current with:~~

The Chairman shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the council, preferably, but not necessarily, from amongst the Council's ranks.

Reason:

For clarity and authority in appointing persons with expertise outside of the council members

Added to the New Handbook

~~(11) Bye Laws. 3 (4) Law and Legislation Committee~~

f) add: vi: Failure to register via affiliate of athlete's country of citizenship
add, vii: Athletes bringing the sport into disrepute or discrediting the sport

Reason:

To cover for unforeseen problems and irregularities in WMA competitions.

Added to the New Handbook

~~(12) Bye Laws. 4 Alteration to Rules ——— Add new (4a)~~

To insure that the Rules of Competition are in proper order, any proposals for changes to Rules of Competition not previously submitted for approval by the Stadia and/or the Non-Stadia Committee can become effective only after it is reviewed by the Stadia and/or the Non-Stadia Committees as appropriate. Also the proposals must be approved by the Law and Legislation Committee as to legality, compatibility, presentation, and wording. If a proposal is changed in any manner by this required review, the proposal, in its changed form, and a full explanation for the changes, must be brought back before the next meeting of the appropriate body that originally approved it (either the Council or the General Assembly) for reaffirmation.

Reason:

To follow the same principals as IAAF in ensuring that rules of competition are viable before submission for approval at the GA and for implementation by WMA and regions.

Amended and added to the New Handbook

RULES OF COMPETITION

~~(13) Rules of Competition. 1 Championships Non Stadia~~

That the WMA World Championships Non-Stadia shall be removed and its events shall be allocated by the Council. Proposals for such events may be made by WMA affiliates or by a majority vote in the Assembly provided advance notice was filed, as required.

Reason:

Clarification from 2005 GA where the result of the proposal was incorrectly ruled, as only a simple majority was needed.

Rules of Competition: section 1, Championships:

Amendment of paragraph 1 (1) – to remove the WMA World Championships Non-Stadia and the placing its events with WMA Championships Stadia and Indoors.

Votes:	In favour	51
	Against	41
	Abstentions	0

Events have been added to the New Handbook.

The non-stadia committee rejects.

Reason: *There is a misinterpretation of what WMA event this represents.*

Lahti: Council to outline the point of clarification at GA in Lahti 2009

No discussion, the present ruling stands the motion was lost as there was not a 2/3 majority needed, only a simple majority. The events have been added to the Stadia and Indoor Championships as ruled by Council. Non Stadia Championships are removed.

~~(14) Rules of Competition: 5 Entries~~

2nd paragraph, amend, and change to (2)

(2) Where a competitor comes from a country that does not have a WMA Affiliate then that competitor may enter directly, Subject to the approval of the WMA Council. The Council may make an exception to this requirement in the case of an athlete from a specific WMA Affiliate. The WMA Secretary shall submit a list of all the WMA Affiliates to the Organising Committee at least 120 days prior to the start of the Championships

Reason: *re-worded for clarification*

Amended and added to the New Handbook

~~(15) Rules of Competition: 8. The Competition Running and Walking Events~~

NEW.8 (11) in all WMA sanctioned championships the “gun time” will be used in all cases where the chip or similar “worn” electronic timing device is used.

Reason:

“Gun Time” is the only official time accepted by the IAAF. Race directors, reporters, officials and mostly athletes continue to be confused over which time is “official”.

Lahti: Accepted by the Council and the Non Stadia Committee

Added to the New Handbook

~~(16) Rules of Competition: 8. The Competition Running and Walking Events~~

NEW 8 (12) (i) at all WMA track and field championships the Non Stadia events will be timed using the chip or similar “worn”. electronic timing device.

(ii) Track race walk races will be timed by the chip or similar warn electronic timing device.

(iii) An application may be made by the LOC of a WMA Championship within two weeks after the closing of the entries to use an alternate timing method. The application is to be made through the WMA secretary, to the non stadia and stadia vice presidents WMA. A determination will be conveyed to the LOC within three weeks of the receipt of the application.

Reason:

(i) (ii) The chip or similar electronic worn device counts laps accurately. Officials and athletes as well as their supporters become confused in long races and loose count. The WMA non stadia races and race walks in particular have been plagued for years with this problem. Officials are taking laps by simply making check marks. These can not be verified.

(iii) The LOC some times may find that the entries are chip is not available in their location. This item gives the LOC a way out if needed.

Lahti: Accepted by the Council and the Non Stadia Committee
Added to the New Handbook

~~(17) Rules of Competition. 5. Entries. New paragraph~~

Once entries are validated by the WMA Affiliate and forwarded to the Organising Committee, the Organising Committee will not make any changes to the entries without the written express approval or request of the WMA Affiliate.

Reason:

It has been the case that the Organising Committee overrides the corrections of the WMA Affiliates and team managers, using the athletes' original entries as an input source, effectively reversing the corrections which have been made and making the athlete's entry incorrect.

Added to the New Handbook

WMA Affiliate motions

(18) Proposed by British masters Athletic Federation

Constitution, 11, Eligibility

British Masters Athletic Federation proposes the following change to 11 (b)

Athletes holding dual nationality/citizenship (or permanently living in a foreign country) may be permitted to change nationality/citizenship, or Affiliation (i.e. compete for another country, only when a change in the athlete's permanent address has occurred). Such changes must be agreed by the National Bodies of both affected affiliates and be re-reported to the WMA Secretary and shall only be effected once such confirmation in writing by the two affiliates will have been received by the WMA Secretary.

Reason:

Many athletes live in foreign countries and do not want to change their country of nationality, but wish to compete in the country they live, and this give them the opportunity through their old affiliation to do so.

Accepted by Council with the underlined amendments

BMAF withdrew, Amended motion Carried (Pending)

No discussion from affiliate or GA on the motion

(Chair "explained to the assembly the motion had been accepted by the Council so what had been withdraw was a challenge to the council ruling"), but no vote was taken, as this is a constitutional motion with a 2/3 majority needed a vote must be taken at the next GA 2011 before inclusion.

(19) Add .to By-Law, should 11, (b) be accepted and this paragraph adopted.

11. Eligibility:

Athletes granted dispensation under section 11(b) requesting a 2nd change in national affiliation status, will be considered by WMA Council, by request from their present Affiliate stating all reasons therefor together with evidence from the two affiliation concerned. Any reversal of such change shall only be granted to their original affiliate of nationality /citizenship, and they shall also serve a term of non eligibility as per the WMA/IAAF rules for eligibility

Accepted by Council with the underlined amendments
BMAF withdrew, Amended motion Carried
No discussion from affiliate or GA on the motion

~~(20) Proposal by: Finnish Veterans' Athletes Association and Italian Athletics Federation~~

Constitution: 5. Council: Insert under 5 (e):

Council will appoint a Permanent Board for the purpose of dealing with anti-doping and medical matters. This board will have decision empowerment for all WMA activities relating to doping and medical issues. The board shall co-operate closely with the Medical Committee of IAAF.

Current (e) to (n) will become (f) to (o).

8. Standing Committees

Delete:

c) Anti-doping- and Medical Committee”

Council Rejects

Reason:

Council already has the Anti-doping and medical Committee with these duties

Also at time of writing there is a new stand alone WMA Anti-Doping Rule to be presented to the general Assembly for adoption

Withdrawn by Affiliate

~~(21) Constitution 8. Standing Committees~~

USA Track & Field Masters

Proposes that last sentence in section 8 (c) of the Constitution be deleted.

Council Rejects,

Reason:

The WMA AD&M Committee from time to time must approach the IAAF Medical Committee, for guidance, as with other Federations.

Withdrawn by Affiliate

~~(22) Constitution. 8 Standing Committee. 8 (c)~~

The British Masters Athletic Federation propose

that WMA Council ask the IAAF Medical & Anti-Doping Commission and WADA to draw up a separate and less rigid list of prohibited substances, applicable only in Masters Athletic competition, to allow for prescribed medication for age related conditions in athletes aged 35 years and over.

Reason:

BMAF feels that master's athlete particularly in the older age groups; need to have different values in prohibited substances from those of normal athletes, whilst following the same anti-doping principles

Council Rejects

Reason:

The new IAAF and WMA Anti-Doping Rules and the TUE Application Form provision for Masters, and separate list of prohibited substances cannot be accepted

Withdrawn by Affiliate

BYE-LAWS

~~(23) Proposed Motion Proposal by: Finnish Veterans' Athletes Association and Italian Athletics Federation~~

By-Laws: 3 Committees: Delete: 3 (3) Anti-Doping and Medical Committee"

Current (6) Organisational Advisory Committee will become – see above.

Add:

4. Standing Committee

"Anti-Doping and Medical Board

The Board consists of no more than 5 members, composed as follows:

Three members must have medical or pharmaceutical expertise

One member must have a legal background

One member will be nominated from IAAF's Medical Committee and shall be appointed chairman.

The members will be appointed to the Board by Council.

Responsibilities of the Board:

Finalises draft of WMA's Anti-Doping Code and put into effect.

Drafts proposals for age-adjusted application of anti-doping rules and advances them for voting to the decision making panel.

Compiles exemption rules for Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE).

Is responsible for administration of doping controls at all world championships in accordance with WADA and IAAF "Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control".

Grants expert technical support to WMA Regional Associations, also responsible to Masters on general educational issues in doping matters.

Reports to Council and the Law and Legislation Committee about all doping matters generally and specifically.

Also responsible for all medical matters including sex determination."

Current 4. and 5. Will become 5. and 6.

Council Rejects

Reason:

These issues are already covered by the Anti-doping and medical Committee and the New WMA Anti-Doping Rules. The ADM Committee has instigated regional medical teams to consider AD matters.

Withdrawn by Affiliate

RULES OF COMPETITION

~~(24) Proposal by: Finnish Veterans' Athletes Association and Italian Athletics Federation~~

Rules of Competition. 2, adds new paragraphs: Anti-Doping Control:

Anti-Doping testing of competitors may be conducted at any time including at WMA Stadia, Indoor and Non-Stadia World Championships and shall be performed during Stadia, Indoor and Non-Stadia events.

(2a) Anti-Doping Tests are obligatory during every WMA World Championship. Each LOC accepts this procedure under the rules of the IAAF and WADA.

(2b) The number of tests corresponds to the number of entries (= registered athletes) and should not be less than 1,0%

(2c) Affiliates of WMA accept (obligatorily) the drug testing procedure during their regional championships.

(2d) Affiliates of WMA also accept corresponding to the number of entries (= registered athletes) a percentage of these tests not be less than 0,5%

Council Rejects

Reason:

These issues are already covered by the Anti-doping and is already covered in competition rules, extra fees for anti-doping are within the WMA contract and entry fees.

Withdrawn by Affiliate

(25) The Competition: 10. Steeplechase

Proposed by the Real Federación Española de Atletismo (RFEA) (25-28)

RFEA Proposes that the height of the Steeplechase Barriers for the M50-M55 be reduced from .914M to .762M.

Reason:

All events for men 45-to 50 have changes, except the steeplechase, the heights are adjusted in the 60mh, 100mh, 400mh, there are adjustments in the throwing events, and this proposal gives some equality

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject

Stadia Committee justification: it is fiscally and physically impractical.

The delegate from Spain explained the reason for the proposed change.

Rex Harvey, speaking for the Stadia Committee spoke against the ruling and for the change to .762m. **Motioned that we accept the change of M55-59 height for Steeplechase as 0.762M. 2nd ESP**

In discussions delegate from USA wanted clarification that the proposal was only for change in the height and not the distance, Bernardino H Uribe Santana, delegate from Chile I think we would be playing with toys if we lower the height. I think that the people who decide to train and compete in athletics have to see how to train and how to prepare themselves. An athlete has to have a project and therefore they have to train and see what the conditions are and see if they are prepared to compete or not. There would be problems of statistics. Vern Christensen delegates from Canada, Ivar Soderlind Sweden and Mexico spoke against the motion.

Ilka Carbo, Puerto Rico spoke in favour, we need to take into account what the real purpose is. If we want more people to participate, we change the height. I am not a steeplechase runner, but I think that we should change the height in order to give more people a chance to participate.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

66 Against 44 For. Motion was Rejected

~~(26) RFEA proposes that Men 60+ and Women 60+ do not compete in Steeplechase events.~~

Reason: In realization of the difficulty in jumping the barriers and water jump

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject

Stadia Committee justification: Long time WMA policy is to let athlete decide which events to enter

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

~~(27) Should (26) not be adopted. The RFEA proposes that the Men 60+ and Women 60+ do not include the water jump in the steeplechase.~~

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject

Stadia Committee justification: Does not follow the basic intent of the IAAF event.

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

~~(28) The RFEA proposes that the Women 35-40-45 distances of the steeplechase be increased from 2000 meters to 3000 meters.~~

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject.

Stadia Committee justification: 2000 m is what IAAF demonstrated. 3000 meters is too long to encourage participation in the critical transition period of Open into Masters competition

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

~~(29) Proposed by British Masters Athletics Federation~~

~~Rules of Competition~~

~~BMAF proposes that WMA Championships Indoors, and Non Stadia (when reinstated) shall be organised every 4 years starting from 2008 after Clermond Ferand), and be held in the quadrennial even numbered year~~

~~**Reasons:**~~

~~We feel that there are too many championships and in particular that they are generally in Europe and with costs getting to highs for athletes to attend these and other championships, thus making entries less and more difficult to get organizer for championships.~~

~~*Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this item*~~

~~*Stadia Committee justification: Entry numbers to WMA indoor championships show increasing interest each two year period*~~

~~**Withdrawn by the Affiliate**~~

(30) *Rules of Competition. 5. Entries*

Proposed by British Masters Athletics Federation

1) Present paragraph

Entries to all WMA World Championships may be submitted either through their national WMA Affiliate or electronically (E-mail) directly to the Organizing Committee. An entry received electronically (E-mail) by the Organizing Committee must be validated by the entrant's WMA Affiliate. Each such Affiliate and the Host Organizing Committee shall inform the WMA Secretary of its method of validating entries be changed to:

Entries to all WMA World Championships will be submitted through the national WMA Affiliate electronically (E-mail) directly to the Organizing Committee or by mail. Entries received electronically (E-mail) by the Organizing Committee must be validated by the WMA Affiliate by means of the delivery to the LOC of "hard" copies. Each such Affiliate

and the Host Organizing Committee shall inform the WMA Secretary of its method of validating entries.

Reason:

Athletes entering directly to an LOC create considerable problems to Affiliates who have to validate these entries, and many affiliates do not have full time persons to cope with athletes entering themselves.

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to accept this item

Stadia Committee justification: Needed clarification.

Rex Harvey proposed that the new council be directed to look into the area of responsibility for the motion and BMAF possibly withdraws it at the present.

BMAF withdrew the motion (matter to be resolved by New Council)

~~(31) Rules of Competition. 5 New paragraph.~~

~~Proposed by British Masters Athletics Federation~~

BMAF proposes that for all Championships WMA the LOC uses a specific compatible computer program for entries, where necessary affiliates may be supplied with the database for ease of entry, or any program used shall be compatible to accept the major affiliate's entries electronically.

Reason:

We all welcome the affiliates sending electronic entries; all LOC's have different computer systems. And particularly for affiliates that have their athletes already on a database, it is time consuming to have to try and use a different system for each championship, when they can easily send to the LOC their database in use

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this item

Stadia Committee justification: These specific requirements do not allow sufficient flexibility for the various LOC's with their varying IT assets

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

~~(32) Proposal by: Finnish Veterans' Athletes Association~~

~~Rules of Competition: Championships~~

In the schedule of World Stadia Championships there should be only one (1) rest day

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this item.

Justification: Athletes, and especially officials and administrators need breaks and meetings, without competition going on at the same time, are necessary.

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

(33) The Competition: Field Events

Proposed by Australia Masters Association

That the weight of the W70+ shot and hammer be reduced from 3 kg to 2 kg

Reason:

Women only have one weight reduction and this occurs at 50 years. Men have a reduction of weight at 50, 60 70 and 80. It is unfair to expect women to use the same implement whether they 50 or 90.

The Stadia Committee agreed to amended item

That the weight of the (W75)+ shot and hammer be reduced from 3 kg to 2 kg.

Justification:

W60 13.20 WR

W65 12.21 WR
W70 11.02 WR
W75 8.11 WR Note large drop at age proposed
W80 7.71 WR

Reductions have been only at 10 year increments before, but performance loss accelerates at older ages so reduction should come when they are justified by the performance data

Lahti: Council agree with the Stadia Committee to amend this item.

Ivar Soderlind delegate for Sweden spoke against the changes. Wilma Perkins delegate for Australia proposed an Amendment supporting the Stadia committee's recommendation.

That the weight of the W75+ shot and hammer be reduced from 3 kg to 2 kg.

Votes for the Amendment. 84 for 28 against

Main motion, Wilma Perkins delegate from Australia explained that the Women and Medical opinion supported the need for the changes.

Votes for the Motion: 78 For. 34 Against. Motion Carried

(34) The Competition: Field Event

Proposed by Australia Masters Association

That the weight of the W70+ discus be reduced from 1 kg to 0.75kg.

(Currently only the W80+ throw the 0.75kg discus.)

Reason:

Throwing records show that there is a major drop off of throwing ability in the women's seventies age group. Men have a discus weight reduction at 50 and again at 60 years. Yet women currently use the same weighted discus whether they are 40, 50, 60 or 70.

Stadia Committee agreed to amended item.

That the weight of the W75+ discus be reduced from 1.0 kg to 0.75 kg.

Justification:

W60	39.24
W65	37.62
W70	31.62
W75	22.44 Note large drop at age proposed
W80	20.65

Reductions have been only at 10 year increments before, but performance loss accelerates at older ages so reduction should come when they are justified by the performance data

Lahti Council: agreed with the Stadia Committee to accept the amended item

Delegate from Australia spoke for the motion and amendment of the Stadia Committee, delegates of Nederland and Sweden spoke against the motion, Delegate of Belgium as a member of the stadia committee spoke for, and explained the reason for change at the particular age. The delegate of Spain expressed we look for simplicity. Rules have to be clear and simple to every one of our athletes. Makes no sense to make one change in one discipline and not in other disciplines.

Vote to the Motion. 76 For 35 Against. Motion Carried

(35) The Competition: Field Events

Proposed by Australia Masters Association

Rules of Competition: That the heavy weight for W70+ be reduced from 5.45 kg to 4 kg.

Reason:

The heavy weight is about twice the weight of the shot that is used within any age group. This reduction will allow this pattern to continue. The men have their heavy weight reduced at this age.

The Stadia Committee agreed to amend. Rules of Competition:

That the weight for W75+ be reduced from 5.45 kg to 4 kg.

Justification: W60 17.57

W65 16.44

W70 15.00

W75 10.87 Note large drop at age proposed

W80 9.57

Reductions have been only at 10 year increments before, but performance loss accelerates at older ages so reduction should come when they are justified by the performance data

Lahti: Council agree with the Stadia Committee to accept the amended item

No discussions.

Vote to the Motion: 79 For. 29 Against. Motion Carried,

~~(36) Rules of Competition: Combined Event Competitions 4-5~~

~~That the name of the 'weight pentathlon' be changed to the 'throws pentathlon.'~~

Reason:

This is a more appropriate name and it will avoid confusion with the weight throwing event.

Riccione Council accepted the name change and made the immediate rule change subject to General Assembly reversal.

Stadia Committee agrees with the Council in Riccione to accept his item.

Stadia Committee justification: This name better describes the event and is not confused with the weight event itself and some translations already call it the throws pentathlon.

Added to the New Handbook

~~(37) The Competition: Running and Walking Events~~

~~Proposed by Australia Masters Association~~

~~That for the setting of World Records for track and road Walk events, a minimum of 6 nationally accredited judges be required with at least 1 judge at the highest grading for a National Technical Official. This judge to be the equivalent of at least a Level 1 IAAF Technical Official.~~

Reason:

~~European masters competition has the ability to engage 6 IAAF international walk judges at walk events where world records/best performances may be set. Because of the distance factor and sparse population of many WMA affiliates, it is not~~

practical nor economical to comply with this rule. By setting a standard which could be met by these Affiliates, the validity of world record claims would then be justified.

Lahti: The council agree with the Non-Stadia Committee to rejects this item.

Reason:

Most regions and countries could never host an event where any record could be set because of insufficient numbers and quality of officials.

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

~~(38) The Competition: Running and Walking Events~~

~~Proposed by British Masters Athletics Federation~~

For Road and Track Walks, judges be instructed to use discretion in applying the rules regarding to “straight knees” at contact, for masters.

Reason:

Many masters particularly in the older age groups have difficulties in fully straightening the knee, though their legs are still “braced” and this should not class as a disqualification In favour of the athlete

The Non-Stadia Committee rejects

Reason:

The non stadia committee does not accept that race walking have different rules based on age or sex. This decision was reached after reading documents from British and Australian race walkers and after much discussion over the past year.

Lahti: The council agree with the Non-Stadia Committee to rejects this item

The committee has a NEW proposal (2009) which may help to ease the problems associated with judging race walk.

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

(39) Rules of Competition: 9 Hurdle Races

Proposed by Australia Masters Association (39-48)

LONG HURDLES

That the M75+ long hurdles be reduced to being a 200m hurdle event with 5 hurdles. (Currently the M75+ have a 300m event with 7 hurdles.)

Reason:

This is a safety issue as most of the falls in the 300m event tend to occur in the final 100m when athletes are fatigued.

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this item

Stadia Committee justification: The fact that most falls occur in last 100 meters is true at all distances and all ages including Open competition.

Wilma Perkins Australia delegates proposed and amendment, 2nd. AUS

That the M80+ long hurdles be reduced to being a 200m hurdle event with 5 hurdles.

Vote on the Amendment: 79 For 24 Against. Amendment Carried

Vote on the Motion. 76 For 27 Against. Motion Carried

~~(40) That the W65+ have the 200m hurdles replace the current 300m hurdles.~~

Reason:

Hurdling becomes an increased safety concern with older athletes. By reducing the length of this event, the fatigue level will be reduced yet the event will still offer an adequate challenge.

The Stadia Committee agreed to an amendment. That the W70+ have the 200m hurdles replace the current 300m hurdles.

Justification: W55 49.14

W60 51.64

W65 55.69

W70 67.16 Note large drop at age propose

W75 89.00

Reductions should come when they are justified by the performance data

Lahti: Council agreed with Stadia Committee, (Note large drop at age proposed) and immediately adopted the item for the 2009 championships.

Withdrawn by Affiliate

~~(41) a) that the M75+ 200m hurdles have a height of 0.686m.~~

~~1) That the W65+ 200m hurdles have a height of 0.600m~~

Reason:

This is the current long hurdles height for M75+ .The W65+ need the reduced height to increase the safety factor.

Lahti: Council agree with the Stadia Committee to reject this item

Stadia Committee justification: it is fiscally and physically impractical to require another hurdle height, sprinters would win hurdle races.

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

(42) That the M55 age group have the 300m hurdles replace the current 400m hurdles.

Reason:

A high percentage of hurdlers in this age group struggle to maintain the form they had in the previous age group. This change would encourage more athletes to stay with the event.

The Stadia Committee rejects

Stadia Committee justification: WR show that M55 have no problem with the current race.

M50 58.10

M55 58.92

Lahti: Council agree with the Stadia Committee to reject this item.

No discussion

Vote on the Motion. 79 Against. 38 For. Motion is Rejected

That the W45 age group have the 300m hurdles replace the current 400m hurdles.

Reason:

From youth, women have the 400m hurdles event. Yet on reaching the age of 45, women are expected to maintain the same hurdle height and distance, even though speed and leg spring is declining.

Lahti: Council agree with the Stadia Committee to reject this item

Stadia Committee justification: W45 group seems to better handle the distance than younger groups.

W35 52.94

W40 59.76

W45 64.09

No discussion

Vote on the Motion. 90 Against. 22 For. Motion is Rejected

- (44) That the W50 and W55 age groups have the 300m hurdle height reduced to 0.686m.

Reason:

From youth women have had a hurdle height of 0.762m for this event. It is unreasonable to expect women who are 50-59 to continue to hurdle the same height. Our master's men have a reduced hurdle height at 50 years.

Lahti: Council agree with the Stadia committee to accept this reduction

Justification: W50 46.19 Riccione 19

W55 49.14 11

W60 51.64 7

Stadia Justification: (Vote: 4 for & 2 against) These hurdles now exist and there normally is a reduction in height between the short (sprint) hurdles and the long hurdles

Kevin Dillon delegate of GB/NI spoke against the change of height, as may athletes say it will make it easier for the sprinters. Mirtha M Perez Davies the delegate of Chile also spoke against the change.

Vote on the Motion. 77 Against. 37 For. Motion is Rejected

- (45) That the W60 age group have the 300m hurdle height reduced to 0.600m.

Reason:

Long hurdles are normally at a reduced height compared to short hurdles. Yet the W60 have the same hurdle height for both their long and short events.

Lahti: Council agree with the Stadia Committee decision to reject this item

Stadia Committee justification: Fiscally and physically impractical

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

- (46) That the M45 have the 400m hurdle height reduced to 0.840m from the current 0.914m.

Reason:

By the mid forties, the loss of spring in the legs has already increased the degree of difficulty of this event. A drop in hurdle height will encourage more athletes to continue hurdling in this age group as well as encourage more athletes to participate.

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this item

Stadia Committee justification:

M35 48.93 WR

M40 52.70 WR

M45 55.18 WR (note consistent drops in performance)

Stadia Committee justification: Performances do not justify change.

No discussion

Vote on the Motion. 94 Against. 21 For. Motion is Rejected

(47) SHORT HURDLES

Age Group	Race	Height	To Hurdle 1 st	Between Hurdles	To Finish	Number Hurdles
<i>Women</i>						
30-39	100m	.840m	13.0m	8.5m	10.5m	10
40-44	90m	.762m	13.0m	8.0m	13.0m	9
45-49	90m	.762m	13.0m	7.5m	17.0m	9
50-59	80m	.686m	12.0m	7.0m	19.0m	8
60-69	80m	.600m	12.0m	7.0m	19.0m	8
70+	60m	.600m	13.0m	7.0m	12.0m	6

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this table of hurdle changes

Stadia Committee justification: Introducing 90 and 60 meters races not practical, introducing 60.0 cm (24 inch) hurdles not fiscally or physically practical, many records would be nullified

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

(48) That the following short hurdle specifications be adopted for men.

Age Group	Race	Height	To Hurdle 1 st	Between Hurdles	To Finish	Number Hurdles
<i>Men</i>						
30-39	110m	.991m	13.72m	9.14m	14.02m	10
40-54	100m	.914m	13.0m	8.50m	10.5m	10
55-59	90m	.840m	13.0m	8.0m	13.0m	9
60-64	90m	.840m	13.0m	7.5m	17.0m	9
65-74	80m	.762m	12.0m	7.0m	19.0m	8
75 +	60m	.686m	13.0m	7.0m	12.0m	6

Reason: These hurdle specifications provide a more gradual adjustment of distance, spacing and height for the aging hurdler. The hurdle specifications remain challenging and provide the opportunity for a hurdler to maintain a three stride pattern.

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this table of hurdle changes

Stadia Committee justification: Introducing 90 and 60 meters races not practical, many records would be nullified

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

(49) Proposal by: Finnish Veterans' Athletes Association and Italian Athletics Federation
Men M35-39 Outdoor and Indoor Hurdle Height be changed from .991m to 1,067m

Reason:

To respect the purpose of IAAF rule 168.3. Many athletes compete in national and international events in which IAAF Rule is applied with the height of the hurdles of 1.067m.

Lahti: Council agree with Stadia Committee to reject this item

Stadia Committee justification: This item was an important one in the adoption of M35 by IAAF, athletes are free to run 1.067 (42 inch) hurdles as often and as long as they desire in Open competition, height must be reduced at some age and at this age promotes the event at a very critical period when athletes first enter masters

competition, WMA competition at age 35 is to offer competition for the majority of athletes, rather than for the elite few

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

- (50) Proposal by: Finnish Veterans' Athletes Association and Italian Athletics Federation
Men 60-69 Outdoor and Indoor Hurdles distance "To 1st hurdle" be changed from 16m to 12m

Reason:

To respect the purpose of IAAF rule 168 and table.2.2.-3.1 of the IAAF track and Field facilities manual indicates that the maximum from the start to the first hurdle should not be more than 13.72m The aim is to restore an homogeneous technical situation for all age groups related to 60 and more.

Lahti: Council by a majority agreed with the Stadia Committee to recommend this change.

Stadia Committee justification: To be more consistent with all other short (sprint) hurdle distances to the first hurdle that range from 12 to 13.72 meters, longer lead-in to first hurdle give advantage to "sprinters" over hurdlers, hurdle marks already exist in WMA rules for all but last two hurdles.

Margit Jungmann the German delegate spoke against the motion as the athletes were against the change, and it would be difficult for organiser having to mark out the distances each time. The delegates of Finland, Sweden and Belgium spoke for the motion, against the 16m run to the 1st hurdle. WMA Secretary explained the reason for the 16metres, and the continuation of the markings of the athletics track. Finally the delegate of Japan spoke against. The chair explained the motion and called for a vote.

Vote to the Motion. 74 For. 40 Against. Motion Carried

- (51) The Veteran Committee, Swedish Athletic Association,
Propose a change in the rules for M60 and M65 60 m hurdles (indoors)
Change the distance to the first hurdle from 16 to 12 m, and the distance from the last hurdle to finish line from 12 to 16 m

Present rule

A	B	C	D	E	F
M 60+65	84,0	5	16,00	8,00	12,00

New rule (proposal)

A	B	C	D	E	F
M 60+65	84,0	5	12,00	8,00	16,00

Reason:

We in Sweden are convinced that this change is logical and justified. In all age groups from youth and older, except M60-M65, the distances to the first hurdle are 12 - 13,72 m in 60 m hurdles indoor. See down the rules for veterans in all age groups:

Lahti: Council by a majority agreed with the Stadia Committee to recommend this change.

Stadia Committee justification: To be more consistent with all other short (sprint) distances to the first hurdle which range from 12 to 13.72 meters, some think longer lead-in to first hurdle gives advantage to "sprinters" over hurdlers and hurdle marks for this already exist in WMA rules

The chair asked Rex Harvey to give a brief overview of the proposal, from which he explained that the change of 16m to 12m would be the same as the previous motion and is redundant and need no action.

Winston Thomas spoke against the motion outlining that the change from the 16m will mean that for a 12m run in and 8m spacing all the marking of the hurdles would have to be specially marked for competitions. The chair pointed out the dilemma within motion 50 already passed and 51 pending, outlining that should a change be necessary then a new motion would have to be made in the future assembly. Sandy Pashkin spoke for the motion explaining the chart set out in the new proposal.

The chair called for the Vote to the Motion.

72 For. 32 Against. Motion Carried

~~(52) Proposed by Canadian Masters Athletic Association – Rules of Competition, section 10, Steeplechase~~

Amendment to present paragraph 10 (3)

Canadian Masters Athletic Association proposes that the present wording of paragraph 10 (3):

“(3) Competitors may hurdle or vault the barriers or step on the top rail in continuous motion but may not climb them. The hands or the feet may touch only the top surface of the barrier and no other part of the body may touch any part of the barriers.” be amended so that it will now read as follows:

“(3) Competitors may hurdle, vault or step on the top of the barriers, and must go over or through the water. In doing so, competitors shall be disqualified, if they:

- (a) do not go over any barrier,
- (b) step to one side or the other of the water jump, or
- (c) trail a foot or leg below the horizontal plane of the top of any barrier at the instant of clearance.”

Reason.

We feel that the present Rule imposes an unrealistic standard on athletes, as there may be many circumstances in which an athlete may touch the front or the back of a barrier with a hand, foot or leg. In addition, we clarify the circumstances under which an athlete may be disqualified, which clarification is adapted from the IAAF Competition Rules, but changed to use the more common term “barriers”, rather than “hurdles”

(this item is essentially a copy of a portion of the IAAF rules for the steeplechase)

(Background: Riccione Stadia Committee recommended to eliminate the WMA exception to the IAAF Steeplechase rules and Riccione Council voted to eliminate the WMA exception)

Stadia Committee agrees with the Council in Riccione to reject this item

Stadia Justification: This proposal restated existing rules and did not correct the problem that the existing WMA exception would result in the disqualification of about two-thirds of the competitors including the very best

Lahti: Council by a majority agrees to with the Stadia Committee to reject this item

Council Justification: rules already in place and the problems is not addressed

Withdrawn by the Affiliate

New Motions to Lahti 2009 General Assembly

WMA Council Proposals

1) Amendment to Constitution (By Council)

General Assembly, Registration. 4.2.5.1 (new)

Any Affiliates whose delegates name/s would not have been furnished in writing to the secretary within the set 30 day period shall never the less be entitled to attend and vote at the General Assembly if such delegate is able to deliver to the secretary or his substitute, during or before the General Assembly registration, proper written accreditation from the Affiliate appointing such delegate to represent them at the assembly. Any such accreditation must be duly signed by the Affiliate's President or Secretary on the Affiliate's stationery to be valid.

Reasons for proposed amendment:

Many WMA General Assemblies from Puerto Rico onwards have been delayed and disrupted because the bye-laws have required either delegate registration or alternatively, notification of delegates not later than 30 days prior to the General Assembly. This in order for them to be eligible to attend and vote. However, in accordance with IAAF procedure, all delegates attending their General Assemblies have the right to do so as long as they are the authorised duly appointed delegates of the various IAAF Federations. It is therefore recommended that WMA follow this procedure as it will not only streamline delegate registration on the day of the General Assembly, but more importantly, it will streamline proceedings at the General Assembly and avoid the on-going debates, disputes and voting arguments which have characterised the start of most recent General Assemblies, contributing towards these General Assemblies over-running the allocated time provided for them. In addition, this amendment will make the life of the Secretary far more manageable, at General Assembly time, than it has been in the past.

Stan Perkins spoke in favour of the Council.

Delegate from Canada spoke against the motion and explains the present constitution 4.2.5 make it clear and give affiliates an incentive to make sure that delegates are registered on time, this take away any incentive.

Chair explained a 2/3 majority of those voting will be needed.

Vote to the motion. 2/3 majority needed. 63 For. 43 Against. Motion Rejected

2) Amendment to Constitution (By Council)

7.5 Secretary

7.5.4 Current text:

The Secretary shall send the minutes of all meetings of the Council to the Council members.

Amend: to read.

The Secretary shall send the minutes of all meetings of the Council to the Council members within 45 days of the date of said meeting.

Reason:

Minutes need to be prepared and distributed within a reasonable timeframe to serve their purpose of being informative and useful.

No Discussion

Vote to the motion. 2/3 majority needed. 95 For. 7 Against. Motion Carried

3) Amendment to Constitution (By Council)

4.4 General Assembly, Agenda

4.4.2 The General Assembly may: add to 4.4.2.1

All new proposed changes to Rules of Competition must first be evaluated by the Stadia and/or Non-Stadia Committees before being admitted to the GA floor for voting. To be considered for GA voting, proposed changes must reach the committees at least one year in advance of the GA.

This requirement is read in conjunction with Bye-Law provision 4.2.1 on Change of Rules.

Reason:

The GA assembly should not be flooded with proposed ROC changes that have not been technically evaluated. It is the function of the Stadia and Non-Stadia Committees to review and assess proposed changes and make recommendation thereto prior to the Gal.'s chance to vote on them.

Delegate from Australia spoke against the motion outlining that with Bye-laws, Competition Rules and this motion it would take far longer to consider any changes and they would have to again go before the committees before being ratified. Brian Keaveney spoke on behalf of Council and expressed this would make things easier as all items to the GA would have been considered by the committees beforehand

Vote to the motion. 2/3 majority needed. 91 For. 14 Against. Motion Carried

4) Amendment to Constitution (By Council)

5. Council.

5.3 Purpose

5.3.7 (add new paragraph)

Council members may not hold organizational positions with organizations that promote events not sanctioned by WMA.

Reason:

WMA's mission and image should not be encumbered with the impression that WMA, through its officials, supports, tolerates, or promotes events that are factually or by appearance in athletic competition with WMA championships.

Friedel Schunk spoke on behalf of Council and expressed that there was a loop hold within the constitution and this caters for it.

Delegate from USA proposes an amendment for clarification with wording to relate to Masters Events, second by Brian Keaveney. Final wording was proposed by Sandy Perkins (addition of "International Athletics Masters")

Council members may not hold organizational positions with organizations that promote International Athletics Masters Events not sanctioned by WMA.

Vote to the Amendment.

Vote to the Amendment. 73 For. 31 Against. Amendment Carried

Discussion on the New amended motion, The Vern Christensen delegate from Canada felt the motion was restrictive as it implied you could not help out in another International masters event we need to find away to get around this. Jean Thomas the delegate from France asked about the procedures and who defines the action.

Through the chair the response is that we do not have defined procedures presently. Wilma Perkins delegate from Australia asked what about masters competition sanctioned by IAAF, a response from Cesar Moreno-Bravo that the IAAF would not sanction an event not approved by WMA.

Vote to the motion. 2/3 majority needed. 68 For. 33 Against. Motion Carried

5) Amendment to Constitution (By Council)

5. Council. 5.3 Purpose: 5.3.8 (add new paragraph)

By policy or case administration the loyalty of any council member must first support the position of WMA. No council member shall lobby, speak or vote against any council motion put forward for adoption at a GA.

Reason: In matter of conflict council members must 1st support the position of WMA Dick Dunstan delegate from Norfolk Island spoke against the motion, citing that members represent their regions and where there may be a conflict of interest for their region they would need to follow the mandate of the region and this would put around 50% of members in a difficult position.

Vote to the motion. 2/3 majority needed. 44 For. 62 Against. Motion Rejected

Amendment to Bye-Laws

5A) Adoption of WMA Anti-Doping Rules and Regulations. (By Council)

To adopt the New WMA Anti-Doping Rules and Regulations, as set out on the WMA Website.

Following extensive work with the IAAF Anti-Doping and WMA the new rules and regulations are council members recommended for adoption by the GA.

Winston Thomas explained the reason for the addition of the motion. Affiliates had been made aware of the Anti-Doping Rules but there had been an oversight in adding the adoption to the motions.

Stan Perkins asked that the Rules be adopted now otherwise we would have to revert back to the IAAF Rules for the next two years, and these been agreed with the IAAF who asked us to make our own Rules.

Vote to the motion. 94 For. 8 Against. Motion Carried

6) Amendment to Bye-Laws (By Council)

3.4 L+L Committee. 3.4.4 Discipline related Allegations

3.4.4.3 Currently reads:

Promoting, organizing, conducting or advertising any international masters competition which has not been sanctioned by WMA.

Replace with:

The act by any WMA Office holder of promoting, organizing, conducting or advertising any international masters athletics competition, not sanctioned by WMA, that is in direct competition with WMA events.

Reason:

To discourage highly visible office holders of WMA from engaging in activities detrimental to the status and mission of WMA.

Friedel Schunk spoke on behalf of Council, to explain the motion strengthens the Law and Legislation Committees powers to deal with such matters.

The Gary Snyder USA delegate asked for clarification as the “masters Competition”. Through the chair, it was meaning “athletics”. Carroll Deweese USA Delegate proposed an amendment, 2nd USA, to add the word “Athletics”.

The act by any WMA Office holder of promoting, organizing, conducting or advertising any international athletic masters competition, not sanctioned by WMA, that is in direct competition with WMA events.

Vote to the Amendment. 91 For. 6 Against. Amendment Carried

Explanation was sought on “that is in direct competition with WMA events” the Friedel Schunk explained that this would be where we as WMA Officers promote interest to athletes other than our own championships that is detrimental to the mission of WMA, and that is the purpose and intent to strengthen the work against this with punishment. No further discussion the chair called for a vote.

Vote to the Motion. 82 For. 19 Against. Motion Carried.

7) Amendment to Bye-Laws (By Council)

3.4 L+L Committee. 3.4.4 Discipline related Allegations

3.4.4.6.1 (new paragraph):

Having conflict of Interests.

Reason:

To specifically identify a potential cause for disciplinary action.

No discussion

Vote to the Motion. 81 For. 12 Against. Motion Carried

8) **New Bye Law 3.3.3 The WMA anti-Doping Rules as posted on the WMA website together with Regulations and offices provided for be adopted as per appendix (L&L1) L the Anti-doping Rules. L1 the TUE Regulations.**

Reason:

To provide for the offices and officers appointed for the implementation of the WMA anti Doping Rules, and Regulations

Winston Thomas spoke on behalf of Council to explain the purpose of the Bye-Law which was to cover any “person” dealing with Anti-doping matters.

Vote to the Motion. 85 For. 9 Against. Motion

Amendment to Rules of Competition

9) Amendment to Rules of Competition (By Non-Stadia Committee)

Rule 116 Establishment of a WMA Race walk Panel

The panel shall consist of:

Race Walk judges selected and approved by WMA VP non-stadia

Experienced race walk judges in Masters Athletics from a variety of countries

All judges will serve a probationary period before final approval as a WMA race walk Judge.

A list of approved WMA race walk Judges will be placed on the WMA Website.

All WMA race walking championship judges shall only be those approved by the Non-Stadia VP no later than one month prior to the championship

Reason:

This proposal is a response to critics of the rules and of the judges we use at WMA events. In the past Master's championships we have had problems with race walk judging being inconsistent between younger and older athletes, men and women and the interpretation of the rules. Even the highest level judges have proved inconsistent. The proposal will bring consistency to the judging. At each championship some of the WMA race walk panel will be used to bring this consistency to the event and to help train race walk judges who are newer to Masters Race walk into this consistency. The panel will grow over the years and eventually each championship will be judged by officials who know how to interpret the race walk rules within our sport. The WMA will be a leader in race walk judging because of this initiative.

Brian Keaveney spoke on behalf of the motion and his Committee; this should help to have consistent judging in our championships. This is an attempt to stay within the rules of race walking, and have Judges that can train other.

Gary Snyder the delegate from USA asked will there be accost to this, No
Nicola Maggio delegate from Italy expressed that there already exists such panels.

Vote to the Motion. 101 For. 3 Against. Motion Carried

10) Addition to Rules of Competition (By Non-Stadia Committee)

Rule 116.1. International Race Walking Judges

New Rule

For competitions a minimum of four (4) national or internationally-certified walking judges from four different countries shall be required with an appropriate number of others coming from the host country. For WMA Championships, the WMA Vice President Non- Stadia shall appoint the Chief Race Walking Judge.

Reason:

To ensure availability of highly qualified race walking judges.

Motion withdrawn

11) Amendment to Rules of Competition (proposed by Council)

Rule 200 Combined Events Competitions

Motion:

That the updated 2010 WMA Age Grading tables as proposed on the WMA website be adopted for WMA use effective May 1, 2010.

Reason:

Deficiencies in the Combined Events Scoring factors had been recognized. Upon detailed reviews and with assistance from German expert Bernd Rehenning, new detailed tables called Model 2010 were calculated, reviewed and accepted by the Stadia Committee and proposed for adoption by WMA Council. The tables are published on the WMA website.

Rex Harvey spoke for the motion and outlined that the New Vice President Stadia and his Committee would have to look at the age grades for events other than the combined events, he went on to explain the major changes, better athletes, the average of the top 10 athletes has become the standard for the new tables, with the new standard being lower than 100%, but more practical. Tables have been used already and seem to be working well.

Ivar Soderlind delegate from Sweden says that there has been good work, but from the changes with old and new weights and the comparisons between results how can we do them. The delegate of Portugal asked for explanation of the age groups, Rex Harvey say we are only talking about the age groups from 35 upwards. Rex Harvey answering the Swedish delegate on the changes said we would have to create a conversion tables for the different events, and his suggestion to Ivar is for the New Vice President Stadia and Committee to develop a conversion chart to the old implements to upgrade the combined events and not lose the performances. Ivar is doing this in Europe already

Vote to the Motion. 88 For. 2 Against. Motion Carried

Motion by the WMA Affiliates

Amendment to Constitution

- 12) Proposed by Australia Masters Association
Constitution 4.1.4

Prior to the WMA General Assembly held in conjunction with the WMA Stadia Championships the WMA Secretary will forward in the meeting mail out to affiliates a copy of the standing orders to be adopted at the General Assembly. Upon the opening of the General Assembly by the Chair, the Chair will call immediately for the adoption of the circulated standing orders.

Reason: To ensure the proper and orderly conduct of the General Assembly

The delegate from Australia Lynne Schickert gave an explanation to the proposal outlining that the opening address and running of the current meeting was what they were looking for and should this be the trend for the future then the motion was not necessary.

Friedel Schunk for Council said that whilst the previous GA had not been satisfactory it was not necessary to have such a motion for a constitutional change.

Vote to the Motion. 77 For. 25 Against. Motion Carried

- 13) Amendment to Constitution (By French – FFA) 58.24

5. Council

5.1.10 Delete the following:

The immediate past-President, limited to a period of two years after the election of a new President.

Reason:

In order to guarantee a permanent and continuing work in the WMA Council all members must act for the entire period of office. This proposal is consequently following the IAAF rules, where this office as “past-President” is not included, too. Moreover this deletion protects the budget of WMA.

Jean Gracia delegate from France spoke on behalf of the motion as outlined and thinks that one who is no longer elected should not have such an influential position, would like to bring WMA position as close as possible to that of the IAAF WMA budget.

Friedel Schunk spoke on behalf of Council against the motion outlining the help that can be gained from the position by the incoming new members, and the differences with the IAAF who have permanent staff.

Nicola Maggio the delegate of Italy spoke for the motion agreeing with the delegate of France.

Vern Christensen, Canada spoke on behalf of keeping the position and what they were able to do to help council in general. Also that there should be no bias towards the officer holders.

Jean Gracia in response I fully understand the importance of keeping the experience of office holders, but there is a difference in giving advice and being an active member. Rather than being a member of this council, this person could give advice. We are in full agreement with the respect for these persons of experience, but for that you do not need to be a member of council.

Vote to the Motion. 68 For. 38 Against. Motion Rejected

14) Amendment to Constitution (By French – FFA)

6. Election of Officers

6.1 Nominations. 6.1.1 currently reads:

Nomination of candidates for office may only be made by any Affiliate and must be in the hands of the WMA Secretary ninety (90) days before the opening date of the General Assembly. All nominations shall be accompanied by C.V.'s. The Secretary shall inform all Affiliates no later than 180 days before the opening date of the General Assembly of the Council members willing to stand as candidates for another term.

A nomination may be accepted from the floor at a meeting of the General Assembly only if the Presiding Officer is satisfied that there is sufficient reason why the nomination was not made in the proper manner.

Nomination of a candidate for an office may be made by any WMA Affiliate but, if not made by the nominee's Affiliate, that nomination must, to be valid, be supported or endorsed in writing by the nominee's Affiliate.

The Last paragraph should be changed to:

Nomination of a candidate for an office shall only be made by the nominee's Affiliate

Reason:

This amendment is consequently following the IAAF rules.

Jean Gracia delegate of France spoke for the motion and whilst looking to follow the rules of IAAF, it should be that anyone running for an office on WMA must be supported and sanctioned by the affiliate.

Brian Keaveney, spoke on behalf of the Council against the motion. We could miss out on some excellent people because they may not be known in their own country but would be well known in other countries. The person's federation would still have to be approved by one's own federation.

Vote to the Motion. 59 For. 34 Against. Motion Rejected

15) Amendment to Constitution (By Italian – FIDAL)

5. Council. 5.2: Limit on Affiliate Representation

5.2.1 Change current version:

Not more than two members of the Council or of any single WMA Committee may come from the same affiliate.

to the new version:

Not more than two members of the Council may come from the same affiliate.

(i.e.: the part "or of any single WMA Committee" has to be deleted)

Reason:

The purpose of this amendment is the possibility of development and extension of knowledge as well as the participation of a larger number of affiliates that could be involved into the life of the WMA Committees.

Nicola Maggio delegate from Italy spoke for the motion re-iterating the circulated reasons.

Vote to the Motion. 71 For. 31 Against. Motion Carried

16) Amendment to Constitution (By Italian – FIDAL)

8. Standing Committees. 8.0 add new paragraph

Not more than one (1) member per Affiliate must be appointed to one Committee and a total of not more than four (4) members per Affiliate must be appointed to all the Committees.

Reason:

The purpose of this amendment is the possibility of development and extension of knowledge as well as the participation of a larger number of affiliates that could be involved into the life of the WMA Committees.

Through the chair to the proposers the word "must" was changed to "may"

Nicola Maggio delegate from Italy spoke for the motion re-iterating the circulated reasons. Vern Christensen delegate Canada spoke against the motion, and asked for clarification from the delegate of Italy. An explanation of the motion was that no more than 4 persons from any affiliate may be on committees. Carroll DeWeese USA speaking against explained that the committees that are being talked about members are nominated for their expertise and this would be counter productive. Jean Gracia, France, nothing prevents the WMA to find the expertise where you can find it; you do not necessarily find it in one country. The interest is to have committees which are representative of a global vision. Winston Thomas speaking against the proposal, because WMA has about seven different committees, many times to get the required expertise you finds that the source of those people are countries that are very active in sports. When it comes to stadia and non-stadia and Law & Legislation, we would not have enough people with the experience to do what we want.

Vote to the Motion. 64 Against. 39 For. Motion Rejected

Amendment to Bye-Laws

17) Amendment to Bye-Laws (By Australia Masters Association)

3. Committees. 3.1 Stadia Committee.

3.1.2.6 add new paragraph

The WMA Stadia Committee, through the Vice President Stadia, ensures all event facilities for World Masters Athletics Championships, but particularly throwing events, are, at least one month prior to the Championships:

Built to a standard conforming to standards required for a World Championship

Safe in all respects for the conduct of the events

Completed in all phases of construction and fit for competition

Conducted in an area that complies with requirements for setting a world record
Reason: To ensure that facilities are to the standard expected for a world championship

Withdrawn By the affiliate

18) Amendment to Bye-Laws (By Australia Masters Association)

3. Committees. 3.1 Stadia Committee

3.1.2.7 add new paragraph

If these so-called standard requirements are not met the Local Organizing Committee is required to contact all athletes entered in events scheduled to be held in the substandard area, as determined by the WMA Stadia Committee, informing them that the area to be used is incomplete/substandard.

Reason: Athletes should know before they leave home if there is a problem with the standard of the facilities

3. Committees. 3.1 Stadia Committee

3.1.2.8 add new paragraph

If the area is not made compliant with requirements as determined by the Stadia Committee then athletes affected will have their registration fees for the event (s) refunded.

Withdrawn by the affiliate

19) Amendment to Bye-Laws (By Australia Masters Association)

2.3 Championships

2.3.2 Bidding Evaluation, Presentation & Award

2.3.2.2 add new paragraph

WMA Championships are to be held not more than twice consecutively in the same region, if circumstances allow.

Reason: To provide the opportunity for all athletes to compete in a region other than their own on a regular basis.

Lynne Schickert, delegate from Australia spoke for the motion re-iteration the reason circulated, and this was the third consecutive championships in Europe. Winston Thomas speaking for Council explained there is a shortage of bidders outside of Europe and the new Council will be looking at his, and it should not be an additional amendment to the bye-laws.

Jean Gracia delegate from France, spoke against the motion and said we have seen that the number of bidders is getting smaller, it is getting more and more difficult to get bids, so what is important is the quality of the organization and not where the event takes place. Quality has to have priority over all other considerations. Dick Dunstan delegate from Norfolk Island spoke for the motion

Vote to the motion. 38 For. 68 Against. Motion Rejected

Amendment to Rules of Competition

20) Amendment to Rules of Competition (By British Masters Athletic Federation)

Rule 230 Race Walking. Rule 230.1 new rule

"Race Walking is a progression of steps so taken that the walker makes contact with the ground, so that no visible (to the human eye) loss of contact occurs."

Reason:

We ask WMA to amend the definition of walking to remove the reference to straightening of the knee. We therefore propose that WMA use the above definition of walking:

John Hall delegate and race walk Judge from GB/NI explained some of the reasons for the amendment, there are less walkers entering the championships, many walkers are being disqualified “for bent knees”, this is particularly unfair to the older walkers, there is a lot of evidence to show many walkers have knee problems because of this rule. WMA have special rules to accommodate the need and safety of the other athletes so why not the walkers, should we want the walks to continue in our events WMA must reconsider this unfair rule, and revert back to “heel and toe”. Most races in Great Britain are held under the “contact rule”. And the chairman of the European race walking commission support their amendment.

Brian Keaveney speaking for Council against the motion said we do try to follow IAAF Rules, and in this case he feels that should we change the rule of race walking we would be laughed out of athletics. Delegate from Poland ex Olympic walker spoke against the motion, and feels a change would kill the event.

Sarah Raetsen, Canada, Mr. Kiyoshi Konoike, Japan, also spoke against the motion

In reply John hall explained changes in GB from 1975 still produced Olympic and European champions, who walked perfectly fair, and changes in the rule would not compromise the event, and it would still cater for athletes with bent knees to be correctly judged. Nicola Maggio, Italy, said that at the 2007 walking seminar in Riccione many judges asked that we do not change the masters rules, as other IAAF judges just would not understand, there were also some that also spoke for a change at that time.

Vote to the motion. 25 For. 76 Against. Motion Rejected

21) Amendment to Rules of Competition (By Spain – RFEA)

3.1 Championship Events

3.1.1 Change in the name of the Championships

WMA World Outdoor Championships (Stadia)

As also Non Stadia events are held, we propose to change the name and call it:

WMA World Championships or WMA Summer World Championships.

3.1.2 Change in the name of the Championships

WMA World Indoor Championships (Stadia)

As also Non Stadia events are held: cross country, half marathon and other outdoor events such as throwing, we propose to call them:

WMA Winter World Championships.

In both cases to name them as with the IOC events.

Following long discuss on the motion with an agreements on an amendment and correction of the wording, the motion was withdrawn by the proposer with the agreement by the GA that the President with a Committee will decide on a new title for the Championships.

22) Amendment to Rules of Competition

Proposed by New Zealand Masters Athletics

Proposal: Steeplechase. (IAAF Rule 169.7a)

That in steeplechase events competitors may not be required to “JUMP” the barriers provided that they go over the barriers “in a continuous motion” (IAAF Rule 169.7)

Reason

The WMA Stadia Committee through the WMA Council in its wisdom cancelled the amended WMA Rule and directed that all WMA Steeplechase events would be bound only by the IAAF Rule.

IAAF Rule 169 Part 7

Each athlete shall go over or through the water and shall JUMP each hurdle. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

In addition, an athlete shall be disqualified if he (a) steps to one side or other of the water jump, or (b) trails his foot or leg below the height at the instance of clearance. Provided this Rule is observed, an athlete may go over each hurdle in any manner.

EXPLANATION

It is obvious that our older athletes, again particularly the older ladies, are unable to JUMP the hurdles as required under the IAAF Rule and would therefore be disqualified. The fact that WMA has now set out that only the IAAF Rule for steeplechase events will apply now means that many older athletes will automatically be disqualified under the IAAF Rule because they cannot JUMP the barriers. “Stepping on to” or “climbing” the barriers does NOT meet the IAAF requirement to “JUMP” the hurdles. To enable these older athletes, and again mainly the older women to continue to compete in Masters Steeplechase events, and to avoid numerous disqualifications and the possibility of the subsequent loss of our older athletes to the sport we make this proposal.

Malcolm Clark delegate from New Zealand spoke on behalf of the motion.

Rex Harvey speaking for the council and stadia committee said we are following the IAAF rule and this make it easier to judge the action of that athlete in “jumping” the barriers.

Vote to the motion. 37 For. 58 Against. Motion Rejected

Amendment to WMA ANTI-DOPING RULES

23) Proposed change of WMA ANTI-DOPING RULES

Norwegian Masters Organisation

RULE 40. 1 (a) (i). (b) (i). (c) (i) (ii)

(a) for a violation under Rules 32.2(a), (b) or (f) (prohibited substances and prohibited methods), except where the prohibited substance is a specified substance in a case under Rule 40.5 below, or Rule 32.2(i) (competing whilst suspended or ineligible):

(i) first violation: for a minimum period of four years’ ineligibility.

(ii) second violation: ineligibility for life.

(b) for a violation under Rule 32.2(c) (refusal or failure to submit to doping control) or Rule 32.2(e) (tampering with doping control):

(i) first violation: for a minimum period of four years’ ineligibility.

- (ii) second violation: ineligibility for life.
- (c) for a violation under Rule 32.2(d) (3 missed tests):
 - (i) first violation: for a period of two year's ineligibility.
 - (ii) second and subsequent violations: for a period of four years' ineligibility.

The reason for the proposed changes of the rules is the experienced lack of impact from the two years exclusion. We know one master athlete having two world records M50 and M55 in shot put. Then he was caught for doping. After 2 years quarantine he got a new world record in M60. We believe that the athlete has prepared the comeback in his out of competition period with smartness and great expectations.

To avoid such praxis we propose the rules to be changed from 2 to 4 years exclusion from competition as indicated above. We can not see the reason for not taking the lead in the fight for having clean competition well aware of IAAF/WADA's rules. Remember masters compete for a long period, may be 60 years, but juniors and top athletes just for a few years. Therefore two years penalty does not have the same effect on masters.

Stan Perkins speaking for Council said that many of our Affiliates are members of the IAAF and the proposal would be contrary to them and the present IAAF Rules.

Jean Gracia France also agreed and that the WADA-IAAF Rules need to be followed.

Vote to the motion. 23 For. 78 Against. Motion Rejected

Following the end on the motions the chair asked that the honorary members be recognised.

Marina Hoernecke-Gil being the only nominated person present, took the acknowledgement.

Chair thanked the interpreters

Finally: Through the chair, Bridget Cushen delegate GB/NI on a point of conduct, expressed that she had had unsolicited mail from a University in Canada with personal details that were supplied on her entry form to Lahti. Information is supplied through the Affiliates, and this information has been given to a third party and not authorised by WMA, this can be seen under European Law as a breach the athletes' rights. She ask WMA Council to urgently look into the Championship entry procedures in the light the growing problem of international identity fraud

Stan Perkins said that a medical survey had been asked for in the entry details by his medical Committee, but the details Bridget mentioned were not part of this and we will ensure that this does not happen with future LOC.

The Chairman called the Meeting Closed 17.45, 2nd by the members.

Agreed by the members.

SIGNATORIES

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Herts HP3 9NA
Gt Britain

Winston Thomas
27-09-09

Signed

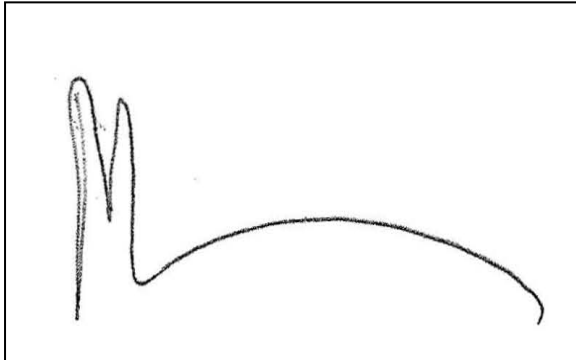
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07-10-09

Signed

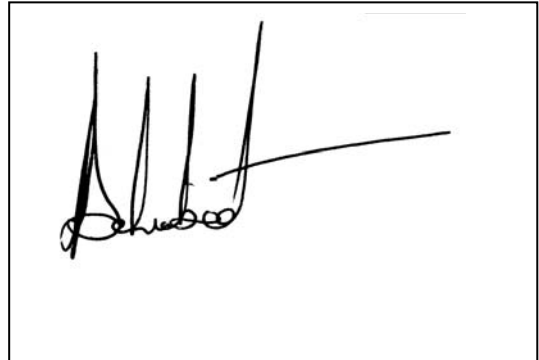
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05-10-09

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Australia



04-10-09

Signed