



## EUROPEAN KENDO FEDERATION

### **MINUTES of the EKF GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010,**

**Held in Debrecen, Hungary, on Thursday the 8th of April 2010.**

#### **01. Listing of the representatives present**

##### 01.01. Registration of the representatives' names, observers and absences

#### **Board of Officers:**

Alain DUCARME,	President (PR);
Raf BERNAERS,	Secretary-General (SG);
Hein ODINOT,	Vice-President (VPR);
Jean-Pierre RAICK,	Technical Director (TD);
Dieter HAUCK,	Treasurer (TR).

#### **Members:**

1. Harald HOFER, Austria, (A);
2. Daniel DELEPIERE, Serge HENDRICKX, Belgium (B);
3. Alexandar ARABADJIYSKI, Bulgaria (BG);
4. Ryuji ITOH, Gerry TSCHERTER, Switzerland (CH);
5. Detlef VIEBRANZ, Germany (D);
6. Emilio GOMEZ, Spain (E);
7. Jean-Paul SOULAS, Francois ISCKIA (F);
8. Niko SAIKKONEN, Pekka NURMINEN, Finland (FIN);
9. Errol BABOOLAL-BLAKE, Great Britain (GB);
10. Ioannis PAPADIMITRIOU, Greece (GR);
11. Zsolt VADADI, Hungary (H);
12. Tomislav PANDURIC, Croatia (HR);
13. Gianfranco MORETTI, Matteo PETRI, Stefano VERRINA, Italy (I);
14. Vincent LONG, Ireland (IRL);
15. Pasha VOLODARSKY, Israel (ISR);
16. Gerardas RUKAS, Lithuania (LT)
17. Zlatko KESKOVSKI, Andrej AGANA, Macedonia (MK);
18. Vladimir MARKOVIC, Montenegro (MO);
19. James Perry ZAMMIT, Paul BUDDEN, Malta (MT);
20. Magnus RYGH, Frode NAERLAND, Norway (N);
21. Koos VAN HATTUM, Joke DE JONG, The Netherlands (NL);
22. Nuno SERRANO, Louis SOUSA, Portugal (P);
23. Włodzimierz MALECKI, Zbigniew MISIAK, Poland (PL);



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24. Ion GARBEA, Romania (RO);
25. Boris MISHIN, Kirill KONSTANTINOV, Russia (RU);
26. Nils BJÖRKEGARD, Sweden (S);
27. Milos PAVLOVICA, Serbia (SER)
28. Buster SEFOR, Tony HUGHES, South Africa (SA).
29. Milos KOVACIK, Slovakia (SK)
30. Imre SIPAHI, Turkey (TR)
31. Konstyantyn STRYZHYCHENKO, Ukraine (UA))

### **Excused:**

32. Jordan (JO);

### **Absent:**

33. Miquel MORANCHO (AND);
34. Czech Republic (CZ);
35. Denmark (DK);
36. Estonia (EST);
37. Iceland (ISL);
38. Luxembourg (L);
39. Latvia (LV);
40. Mozambique (MZ)
41. Slovenia (SLO).

### **Guests:**

Wolfgang DEMSKI (D), Rainer JÄTTKOWSKI (D), EKF Senior Councillors;  
Harald HOFER (A), Enrico PELIZZA (I), EKF Webmasters;

### **Important reading notices:**

To shorten these Minutes abbreviations are used in the text:

- Member Countries (and their delegates) will be indicated by country codes, as mentioned above.
- The European and International Kendo Federations will be referred to as EKF and FIK, respectively.
- The All Japan Kendo Federation / Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei will be referred to as ZNKR.
- The EKF institutions as its General Assemblies, Board of Officers, President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Technical Director, Auditor, Webmaster, Senior



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Councillor Group and Secretary-General, will be referred to as GA, BO, PR, VPR, TR, TD, AU, WM, SCG and SG, and its championships (EKC, EIC and EJC).

### 01.02. Checking of the EKF Membership Fee payment

Some countries not represented at the GA have not paid their EKF dues yet; so they would not have been allowed to vote if present.

### 01.03. Conclusions

The GA is valid, as one third (1/3) or more of the Members Countries are attending.

A two third quorum out of 41 Member Countries is reached.

## **02. Opening by the President**

At **15:00**, the PR is glad to welcome everyone present in the meeting hall of the Postas Hotel, Debrecen, for this year's EKF GA, held at the occasion of the EKC. Fortunately, it was possible to precede this GA with the regular keiko among delegates, a very good tradition.

Then the PR thanks the hosting country, Hungary for all the good work done organising this EKC. The preparations are running smoothly. Then he thanks the EKF BO for the good co-operation during the past year.

The BO expresses the deepest sympathy with Jolanda Decker (NL) and Ari Lehtinen (FIN), two people who both for long having been connected to Kendo in Europe and now fell severely ill; the best wishes for a soon recovery are expressed.

There are a few special points to be addressed at the very beginning by the PR:

- Raf Bernaers, the longstanding SG will not be available as a candidate for this office in the upcoming elections next year; he has contributed much to the development of the EKF, the famous "Green Book" is mainly his accomplishment and is the symbol for the EKF Dan Register, an achievement globally unique. However, times and methods of communication have changed, and so has and will the working of the EKF-BO. Therefore, the next issue of the Green Book later this year will be likely the last one. For organisational reasons in this special situation also the minutes of the GA 2009 in Sao Paulo are



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not yet finalized, they will be distributed at a later point of time with the said volume of the Green Book.

- Due to communication problems, certain proposals from Germany have erroneously not been included in the Agenda; they will be dealt with nevertheless at the appropriate moment in the GA.
- The problem of the missing menjo (Dan-Certificates) from EKF-Dan examinations will be solved by the end of the year. SG explains that there are technical problems with his printer and the paper of the menjo-forms bought.

The PR wishes everyone present a fruitful meeting. He wishes also every country nice championships and then declares the GA open.

### **03. Approval of the 2009 GA Minutes**

The PR has explained the situation in his introduction. These minutes will be distributed later with the Green Book.

### **04. EKF Statutes**

#### **04.01. Shogo Rules**

There is a proposal to change Article 08 of the EKF Statutes, GRADINGS AND GRADING REGISTER. This is the proposed text, as amended by request of D and in the discussion in the GA (underlined text):

*“01. Any individual member, listed on an subscription form signed by the President of the organization in which he is registered or presenting a written authorization by this President, shall be free to enter grading examinations organized by any other Member Country or the EKF, providing that the grading examination is properly organized in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the EKF and the International Kendo Federation (FIK) if applicable, and checked by the Technical Director*

*02. As mentioned in Article 06, subdivision 7, an EKF Dan Grading Register will be maintained by the Secretary-General. This Register shall contain Dan-Gradings and Shogo (Renshi, Kyoshi, and Hanshi) as awarded by Member Countries (see paragraph 7 of this Article). All results of grading examinations and awarded Shogo shall be communicated to the Secretary-General. He will do the necessary to communicate these results to the FIK.*



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03. *Before each examination each member country shall check their own or the EKF Grading Register and confirm that the applicant's former grades are officially listed and the normal delays between grades have been adhered to.*

04. *Each Member Country shall recognize the grades and Shogo awarded by fellow members. European Kendo Profile Certificates can also serve as proof. If presented after a successful grading, they will be signed, if possible immediately, by the EKF Technical Director or a person indicated by him*

05. *When an individual member wants to change the nationality of his membership, the second Member Country will check with the first if there are any objections.*

06. *The President of an official Member Country may delegate his or her authority to organize Dan Grading Examinations to the EKF President*

07. *Each Member Country may award the Shogo titles (Renshi, Kyoshi & Hanshi) to persons registered with this Member Country of outstanding personal qualities and similar achievements in especially teaching and administration. The shogo titles will be registered (see paragraph 02 of this Article) after the Member Countries' Shogo Rules have been forwarded to the EKF Technical Director who approved it in agreement with two Members of the SCG selected by the GA.*

TR explains the proposal. D distributes an amended proposal. SA, SER and MT request the EKF to draft standard rules for shogo, as this seems very complex. It is discussed that the present proposal does not affect in any way shogo as given by the ZNKR. GB desires not to offend Japan by European shogo rule and fears abuse by individuals. D explains that on several occasions Japan has expressed the opinion that Europe is free with regard to Shogo to act.

PR reiterates that each country shall accept shogo given by other EKF Member Countries without any national differences. There shall be no problem if the rules are confirmed by a special committee. There will be developed guidelines for national shogo rules. PR explains that Japan only gives Renshi to Europeans. PR regards a shogo title like a Dan-Grade to be recognized by all EKF Member Countries.

TD is unsure whether a person can ask both the ZNKR and his country for shogo. It is explained that in each case the recommendation of the Home-Country is necessary.



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SK, MT, ask if there will be “national shogo”, eventually shown by a suffix to the shogo. VPR regards shogo as an honorary title and recommends introducing teacher licensing systems instead like in place in NL. D explains that in D there are teacher licensing systems in place and that standards for shogo are high (including teacher license, referee experience etc.). MT asks whether ZNKR will recognize European shogo, D confirms. F requests the EKF to check national shogo-rules to meet certain standards. MT is concerned about the different standards in sports legislation all over Europe. B point out that kyoshi in Japan is only open to people speaking Japanese, no discussion possible with the ZNKR. PR confirms.

The proposal is voted upon and approved.

### 04.02. EKF Anti-Doping Rules (outside the Statutes)

TR explains the distributed draft to be mainly a reference to the FIK-AD-Rules in order any procedure is covered by rules.

The proposal is voted upon and approved.

### 04.03. Minutes of GA (Proposal D – added to Agenda)

D proposes to add to Article 05. of the Statutes a new paragraph 09:

*“Of any meeting by the GA minutes(corrected, draft says a protocol) have to be established. The minutes (corrected, draft says protocol) must be sent to every Member Country not later (corrected based on the discussions as the draft says: less) than three (3) month after the GA. Objections against the minutes (corrected, draft says the protocol) must be sent to the SG not later (corrected as the draft says: less) than six (6) weeks after circulation of the minutes (corrected, draft says the protocol) to all Member Countries.”*

After a short discussion in light of the present situation the proposal is voted upon and approved.

### 04.04. Travel Costs SCG (Proposal D – added to Agenda)

D proposes to add to Article 07. of the Statutes a new paragraph 06 as follows:



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*“EKF will pay the hotel for Members of SCG during the period of GA and EKC (maximum four (4) nights). If a World Championship takes place in the European Zone EKF will pay according to the rule above.”*

The PR disagrees with the proposal and states that SC is an honorary title. In some cases the Member Countries treat those persons differently than the EKF. However, there shall be a clear distinction between elected officers and those persons with honorary privileges. VPR is against the proposal, as he was Treasurer before and reiterates the honorary character of the SCG. TR finds the idea of raising the fees as proposed by GB loater in the discussion interesting, but disagrees with the proposal by D. The SCs are men with knowledge and experience, invited to give advice, provided with some privileges but under no obligation whatsoever.

D argues that only about 3-4 persons will be practically covered. GB agrees with the proposal, if necessary the EKF shall raise the fees and pay those “good men”. It is pointed out that they are appointed by the GA. SC Jättkowski points at the new tasks for the SC in relation with shogo-rules.

SA points out that the financial situation of the EKF is not that good and realistically no additional obligations shall be created. F disagrees with the proposal by D, the SC are “wise man” the expenses of which shall be eventually borne by the respective Member Countries. MT points out that the presence of SC in the GA is not essential, since they can receive the minutes and give advice on that basis.

After further lively discussion the proposal is voted upon and dismissed.

### **05. EKF Website**

TR presents the two EKF Webmasters in the meeting, Enrico Pelizza (I) and Harald Hofer (A), both experts in their fields. They have under coordination by TR developed a new website for the EKF that is already live running on the internet. Pelizza manages the front end that can be seen and used over the internet; Hofer manages the data base where the information is stored. At the moment most of the functions except person’s management are working. The site is demonstrated in the meeting to the delegates by a beamer presenting the screen picture.

Most countries already have nominated Country Web Administrators who have been provided with access data. During the last weeks a lot of country, dojo and event information has been updated by Country Web Administrators. Only minor problems have occurred and have been solved.



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TR explains that once the person's management is up and running, it will be the task of the Countries' Web Administrators – under the responsibility of their respective Presidents - to update person, examination and shogo data for the persons registered with their Federation. There will be possibilities to enter/update individual persons by web form or several by uploading, e.g. by excel-lists. It is the Member Countries who have the information close at hand and have the interest that the work is done. EKF will control and check the updating. For that reason – as should have been the case so far – after each national examination a list of results (EKF-Nr., Name, Grade received, Date, Place, Head of Jury) shall be sent to the EKF signed by the President of the Country organizing the examination. The system of the Yellow Cards (to be sent to EKF after an examination) remains unchanged for the time being. If a person changes the Federation where she/he is registered, the EKF-Number will remain unchanged; it will be however been evident in the data base where the person is registered.

Soon also the advance registration of examinations (three month in advance with date, place and jury/Head of Jury) for clearance by the TD shall be organized over the web-site.

Once all the relevant information (Events, Dojos, Dan-Grades, Shogo and News) and relevant download-facilities are available, the Green Book will not be distributed any more. Correspondingly, the 2010 EKF Invoices did not contain any amounts for Green Books.

D requests a separate News-Page. This is already available. D complains about Green Books having been invoiced but not delivered. The amounts will be repaid.

The new website and the related reorganisation is accepted by the GA.

The PR thanks the TR and the WM for the work done.

### **06. Report by the EKF Vice-President.**

The VPR shortly describes his work and the working of the BO, meeting every two to three month, most of the time in Brussels. It was the VPR task to prepare the agenda and the minutes of the BO meetings. Due to health problems this has been partly been supplemented by the TR. Other important tasks of the VPR are to watch moral priorities in the EKF working and to represent the PR when he is not available.



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### **07. Report by the EKF Treasurer**

#### 07.01. Introduction

The TR announces that the first three countries to have remitted their yearly membership fee are ME, HR and CZ, in that order. The highest fee was as usual paid by F. TR thanks all countries for their contribution, especially if it is made reasonably soon after the invoice. An important part of the total cost for the BO goes to travelling to Brussels, Hungary, France, Romania and others. The financial result was positive this year, as expenses did not exceed the income.

#### 07.02. The EKF Financial Report 2009

The financial report for 2009 has been distributed with the agenda of this meeting. Upon question by D it is explained that the different figures as to the Newsletter 2008 and 2009 result from the fact that two newsletters were posted in 2009. MT requests a reduction in fees for smaller countries. There is no majority to agree to this proposal.

#### 07.03. Approval of Financial Report 2009

John Howell, the EKF Auditor has checked the accounts and announced in writing that he found them in order, specifying that all money has been used for federation purposes. The audit report, drawn by John Howell on the 2nd of March 2010, states that:

*“Having completed the Audit of the European Kendo Federation accounts, I found them duly vouched and accounted for. The bookkeeping standards show that funds used are for the sole use of the objects of the European Kendo Federation.”*

The TR asks the GA to confirm his Financial Report for 2009. The GA agrees with this financial report and discharges the TR unanimously for the year 2009.

#### 07.04. EKF Budget 2011

The TR made up a budget with a reserve. Still based on a rising income due to the growing number of practising yudansha and the higher number of examinations, he has made up a budget about 10 % bigger than the past year.

For your information, the calculation method of EKF’s membership fees is as follows:



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- all members pay a minimum of € 200,00, except for starters who pay € 100,00 for the first year;
- Countries with 100 up to 1.000 members pay € 2,00 per capita;
- Countries with 1.001 up to 2.000 members pay € 1,50 per capita, with a minimum of € 2.000,00;
- Countries having more than 2.001 members pay € 1,00 per capita, with a minimum of € 3.000,00.

The budget for 2011 is approved

### **08. Activity report by the EKF Secretary-General**

The *SG* comments on the *EKF* administrations' activity and on the present level of co-operation between the *EKF BO* and the *EKF* Members. Starting with the subjects 1 up to 6, repeated on a yearly basis:

#### 08.01. EKF Calendar.

The *EKF* Calendar of activities was printed some three times this season, as an addition to other letters and it also appears 'online' on the *EKF* web-site ([www.ekf-eu.com](http://www.ekf-eu.com)). But I have the impression that since the renewal of this web-site in March of this year more & more activities are announced by our members themselves. So it is obvious that the paper version will become obsolete soon.

#### 08.02. EKF Newsletter.

Two parts of this year's Newsletter were ready to be published by the end of 2009, as planned, but they will be sent only at the end of this month due to difficulties editing Part 1, and especially the Minutes of the 2009 *GA*. This year I couldn't prepare them during my two weeks spent at the summer seminar, as usual, due to the fact that the *WKC* were organised very late in the season.

To avoid a book that becomes too thick to handle in a comfortable way, please keep announcing which of your members have quit paying their membership fee in 2009. Using the complete checklist you have received last summer, you can indicate either your active members or the ones who have stopped practising. This year only few of



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you sent their answer before the end of September, as asked for. So the size of part 2 has increased quicker than normal before. Any remarks or proposals regarding this subject remain welcome.

### 08.03. Communication.

Most of the communication between the 41 members and the *SG* happens by returning several models of reply forms:

- The examination subscription form;

Before most of the examinations organised under *EKF* authority, you will receive the appropriate subscription form some months in advance. The ones for the present examinations were distributed at the end of last year, which proved to be too early: some of you forgot they already had received them.

Even if the present system has been working without problems for some years now, the electronic way of making online subscriptions will be introduced shortly. Let's hope the workload will be reduced consistently because of the fact that all data will have to be entered only once. You'll hear more about this later on from our new web-masters.

Let me add that I don't believe in advance examination payments. Even now the last lacks aren't solved yet for the February exam. It works in Japan you might think. But there the subscriptions are handled in an individual way. *EKF* requests national subscription forms and allows for individual payments. This causes a puzzle rather difficult to resolve, as the indications made on the payment form don't correspond to anything on the subscription form.

As for the last twenty years there hasn't been any problem at all regarding this matter, I would propose to abolish advance payments, or create a perfect procedure to prevent all mishaps possible.

- The form with the data of your organisation & representatives;

Up to this morning only 7 (!) members responded by returning this most important form you received as an attachment to the *GA* agenda. I expect to receive a lot more today of course. But if we would have based today's capacity on this information, we should have foreseen only 21 chairs ...

As before, it will be presumed that there weren't any Board changes in the member countries which didn't send any reply.



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- The number of practicing members;

Only 6 Members have reported the actualised number of practitioners, indicating a light decline overall. Of course it is impossible that this number hasn't changed in the other 35 countries. That's why we must insist that this reply form has to be returned every year, even if there aren't any other changes to announce.

- The form with the Newsletter addressees;

Up to the start of this assembly 6 members had returned this form. What about the others?

- The club list;

This reply form doesn't exist anymore, as all data can already be entered online for a few years. The success of this part of the web-site is evident, especially since the web-site renewal: nearly all member countries have listed some or all of their *dojo* in this list.

- Conclusion;

You will have noticed that the quality of our communication can still be improved in the years to come.

### 08.04. Dan Grading Examinations and Registration Procedure

Thanks to the new Web-masters, the *yudansha* list on the web-site has been completely actualised. But let me add that we expect you to actualise the data by yourself from now on. If you wouldn't have received a code and a password yet, please contact the *EKF TR* or *Wm* in order to get access ([webmaster@ekf-eu.com](mailto:webmaster@ekf-eu.com)).

Meanwhile, the printed list of practising *yudansha* in Europe for 2009 will show the total number of **8053** this year, an increase of nearly **17 %** compared to the 6911 graded practitioners of last year. For your information the numbers were 6544, 5530, 4968, 4566, 4488 & 3899 in the six preceding years.

We may conclude that the *EKF* members keep developing a steady growth. Or, if you are of the pessimist kind, that more not practising members still figure in our lists, which, I have to admit it, can be a reason too.



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In total there are not less than 23.357 active members at the moment, compared to and 22.903 last year (a somewhat lower rise of 1,98 %) and 20.656 the year before.

### 08.05. Dan Grading Diplomas.

I announced last year that the diplomas with the new *EKF* design would be distributed shortly after the *GA*. The diplomas were meant to be printed by a new copier I leased at a rather high price. It appeared though that the machine doesn't accept such a thick glossy paper. According to the manufacturer I should be able to announce the paper thickness from the computer, but I couldn't find this method yet.

Meanwhile everyone needing a diploma to pass an examination outside *EKF* has received a signed statement on official *EKF* paper to help them out. This solved all acute problems up to now. If necessary some diplomas can be made by hand during the present *EKC*. Signed originals are at your disposal here in Debrecen.

Upon question by D, PR answers that the missing diploma will be sent by the end of the year 2010.

### 08.06. Results of the seventh years' existence of the EKF web-site.

The revision of the *EKF* web-site by four different web-masters will be demonstrated later on. So I skip this subject for the moment.

### 08.07. The quest for a successor.

You certainly noticed clearly this year that it is a very heavy duty to keep up all tasks of this job in a perfect manner. The main reason is simply a lack of sufficient time. This is very easy to understand. We started with 6 members and only one main activity a year: the *EKC*.

Now, due to the evolution which in itself is very positive, we find it normal that there is a referee seminar for Kendo, that there will be two separate championships for Iaido & Jodo, and that in the near future we may live another kind of referee seminar. And you are aware that there are 41 members by now. It has become too much to accomplish for one single (but married) man.

Yesterday I made an overview of my spending of time. I do expertise work for an insurance company defending architects whenever they are charged before court. Last month I spent 155 hours at the office and 38 hours driving to and from it. With lunch



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time included it means at least 200 hours. I work about one day a week for EKF, meaning 40 hours a month. About 50 hours go to training and teaching Kendo. You may add two to three weeks attributed to the yearly *EKF* activities mentioned earlier, meaning another two days a month. Another 40 hours, and it should be more actually, are invested in my private expert activities for several courts of justice. This gives a total of 330 working hours a month. Or not less than 11 hours a day calculated on a 7 day working week base! This doesn't even include time spent to eat and to be with the family.

I hope you can imagine that my situation has become unbearable in itself. But I have to admit that the second reason lays in a change of working atmosphere.

In the beginning, even when the work wasn't always equally perfect, everyone enjoyed the growth of the federation and the positive effects involved. Now a job seems always subject to criticism, mostly from inside the *BO*, but sometimes, and with reason this year, also from the members themselves.

So the idealistic period seems to be gone and replaced by a mentality whereby the work achieved is scrutinised with suspicion. Result is that it becomes more difficult to enjoy the work done.

That's why I put in the agenda that a successor is awaited for at the next election. It is of course possible that the work load decreases considerably in the near future, due to the new web-site possibilities. But this has been announced for some years too, and I didn't notice any real differences as to now.

Anyway, next year I will have functioned 29 years, meaning 9 successive terms, in the present function of Secretary-General. I fear this will remain a record achievement not to be ever beaten. At the start my predecessor handed over a shoe box not even totally filled with the official *EKF* archives. Now there are 82 large maps of correspondence, not including the more than 20 Newsletters and about 15 maps totally filled with the individual Dan-File registration forms. In total you will need more than 10 metres of free shelf space to stock it all! Things have indeed changed during the passed quarter of a century!

### 08.08. Conclusion.

So I can conclude nearly in the same way as last year: it clearly becomes more and more difficult to accomplish this job on the professional level I'd like to reach. So anybody thinking he or she can do better is asked not to hesitate entering his or her candidature for the *BO* elections to be held next year in Poland.



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And don't worry, I'm very proud of the work I achieved. So I will leave my function head up next year!

Thank you again for your attention.

### **09. Report of the EKF Technical Director.**

Let me present you my annual and chronological report for the years 2009 & 10 of which some printed copies have been handed out among you already.

#### 09.01. World Kendo Championships Brazil, Sao Paulo.

The year the World Kendo Championships are organised always leads to prosperous reflection. I will not treat the results which have been published sufficiently elsewhere, but will remind you of some numbers which some of you may not be aware of.

The FIK has 50 member countries, out of which 29 are from the so-called 'European Zone', whereas EKF has 41. Out of these, 39 countries were represented in Brazil, 18 of them from Europe. We saw 35 teams in Sao Paulo. This weekend there will be 34.

Once more, the regulations ruling the Team Championships could be subject to discussion from my point of view: in fact, two teams were sent to the tournament grid out of some of the pools, whereas it was one from the majority. These changes have certainly been discussed by the zone directors, but it is regrettable that this subject has not been treated by the whole group of 29 countries, be it in a consultative way, or among all EKF members.

Then let me spend some words on the recent activities organised in Europe.

#### 09.02. The European Iaido & Jodo Championships the Netherlands.

As 17 countries were represented at the Jodo event whereas 20 were present at the Iaido part, these latest championships, organised by the Dutch, confirmed the existing growing tendency and behind them the development of these disciplines in Europe. This fact cannot but please us of course.

It will probably have been the last time that the two events are organised at the same occasion and time period and all participants were unanimous to applaud the quality of the reception they got.



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We only had remarks on one subject: the composition of the general grids after the drawings. It is in fact to prevent these kinds of mishaps that it has been decided to establish an official European program that will serve at all EKF events.

Finally, some words on the refereeing development: this time we saw 17 Jodo referees out of six countries and 26 Iaidoka out of nine countries.

For this event the AJKF delegated three famous Iaido teachers: Chihiro KISHIMOTO, Takashige YAMAZAKI & AOKI-sensei and a different team of three Jodo teachers: NAMITOME, KUROGO & Mrs YANO-Sensei.

### 09.03. EKF/FIK Referee Seminar 2010

Another important activity and a strong item on our year calendar is the seminar forming and selecting the Kendo referees.

It has known a somewhat lower participants' rate of 86 (out of which 50 were presented officially for the present championships) out of 17 countries. So it was a success even in this case where we were informed about three months in advance that the date had to be advanced by a week. We thank all participants who went to the trouble of changing their agendas.

This weekend you will notice that 12 countries are represented by one or more referees, among which we remark the arrival of Hungary and Finland.

We were able to profit of the high level instruction offered by the Japanese teachers present this year: Shuji FUKUMOTO, Hitoshi MURAKAMI, Tadashi AJIRO, NAKADA & Arinobu KUROSE-Sensei.

### 09.04. EKF list of Referees and Jury members.

Remaining in the same domain of refereeing and to answer certain questions or remarks concerning the official EKF list of Referees and Jury members I have to refer to the terms used in my letter of the 1st of December 2009 (EKF214AZ):

- The list is established according to the data received from the member countries; the EKF only puts the names together.
- The aim of this list is to inform you of the possible choices to invite a foreign Referee or Jury member to assist at a certain national event.



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- If a country invites a Referee or Jury member that isn't included herein, it does so on its own responsibility and on the one of those invitees.
- It belongs to the sole competence of a country to decide creating national rules or not, obliging eventually her candidates for foreign activities to ask for a permission by its President (possible reference: Art. 4 of the 'FIK Guidelines for Dan Gradings'). As we know, the AJKF adopted such a rule. In a way the inclusion in this list may be considered as a permanent authorisation to referee or judge abroad.

Let me add that as far as the third point above is concerned, it seems to be coherent to contact the President of the country of which you wish to invite someone who is not listed officially in order to get more information.

### 09.05. Iaido & Jodo Referee Seminars.

Remaining in the same sphere, we received the request made by several countries to create separate Iaido & Jodo Referee Seminars.

The EKF policy on that subject has always been to act according to the same principles for Iaido and Jodo, aligning them with Kendo.

For a long time the Kendo referees were just enough in numbers to cover the needs of our championships. Hence the earliest Referee Seminars for Kendo merely offered supplementary refereeing experience; they were not meant for real selection. But gradually the situation has evolved to the stage we know now.

It seems that Iaido & Jodo now are midway in the evolution mentioned above: a positive development whereas championships are concerned but a number of referees not sufficient to allow us the same procedure as we are able to apply to Kendo at the moment.

Nevertheless it seems possible to organise an official EKF seminar, offering general practice besides a consistent refereeing training, requiring at least a 4th or 5th Dan level, and lead by official ZNKR experts, as it is done in Kendo.

But we have to add that it is the actual ZNKR policy to separate the delegations sent for Iaido & Jodo. Of course the composition of these delegations remains their sole responsibility. We cannot consider suggesting that a same teacher would be sent for both disciplines, if ever one combined seminar would be preferable.



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### 09.06. Content of the present EKC.

To conclude this short report, let me treat the new formulas that will be of application in the male and female individual categories. You will certainly notice that the event hasn't lost any of its substantial qualities.

As for the junior category, several applications for exceptions concerning the age of the participants were entered. We couldn't answer them positively for reasons of responsibility.

But it could be considered to lower the age limit to a minimum of 15 years at the actual date of the event. This would correspond to the 'junior high school' spoken about in the FIK regulations treating the specifications of the *shinai*.

### 09.07. Closing.

Finally I don't want to end this report without thanking the AJKF and the high technical and human quality delegations they have sent to support our activities organised last season.

Upon question by GB the TD explains that there will be an Iaido/Jodo Referee Seminar prior to the respective Championships, in case of the EIC 2010 three days seminar are planned.

Upon question by SA the TD explains that the specifications for shinai for "Junior High-School" – who are getting bigger every year – are not changed as the EKF refers to FIK-Standard Rules.

## **10. EKF affiliations**

### 10.01. Ukraine.

The BO has received a letter stating that there is a second federation in the Ukraine claiming to be the only one recognised by the Government. As this is not a formal request for membership, it need not be treated as such. PR advises the representative of Ukraine that it would be best to seek an internal compromise with this second federation and keep the BO informed. The EKF will normally not interfere in internal affairs and can only offer good services for negotiations. However, there can only be one EKF accepted federation per country.



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The representative of UA explains that any federation in the UA will only receive support from the Sports Ministry if accepted by the EKF, which is the main reason for this letter. However, he will attempt a national compromise and respective letters will be sent to the second federation.

### 10.02. Other countries

There are no further valid requests for membership.

## 11. **EKF Relations with FIK**

The PR explains about SPORTACCORD (earlier GAISF - <http://www.sportaccord.com/>) to which the FIK is a member. SPORTACCORD organises the COMBAT GAMES in Beijing in the first week of September 2010. FIK has made a global selection of Fighters, Shimpan and Officials. The COMBAT GAMES are more designed to be a cultural event presenting fighting/martial arts rather than a Championship and shall take place in the future every four years. For Beijing all costs will be covered by the event organisers. PR and TR plan to attend. As there are EJC at the same time in Brussels, VPR will represent the PR, as is one of his functions.

## 12. **Future EKF Championships.**

### 12.01. The 9th EJC 2010— Brussels, Belgium

The date has been changed to 3.9. – 6.9.2010

### 12.02. The 17th EIC 11.11.2010 – France

There are internal discussions with the Judo-Federation. The EIC will not be held in Nantes, it is yet unclear where. This shall be decided before the end of April 2010. Eventually F needs to cancel the event.



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### 12.03. The 10th EJC 2011

No candidate yet.

### 12.04. The 18th EIC 2011 - Andorra

The date will be 18. – 22.10.2011; 18.-20.10. there will be a seminar eventually also for Shimpan.

### 12.05. The 24th EKC 2011 – Gdynia, Poland

The preparations are under way. A new hall is prepared. Date is 5.-8. May 2011. P mentions the Baltic Cup 18.9.2010 in Gdynia in the same place.

### 12.06. The 15th WKC 2012 – Novara, Italy

Preparations are running without problems so far.

### 12.07. The 11th EJC 2012

No candidate yet.

### 12.08. The 19th EIC 2012

No candidate yet.

### 12.09. The 25th EKC 2013 – Munich/Berlin, Germany

D confirms the candidature. The date will be in April.

### 12.10. Other organisations.

There are no other candidatures.



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### **13. Date of the next General Assembly**

The next EKF GA will be held in Gdynia, Poland on the occasion of the 24th EKC on Thursday before the Championships. Date, Agenda and practical details will be announced later on. Hopefully there will be again an opportunity to have keiko before the GA with the delegates.

### **14. Closing by the President**

At 18:30 h the PR closes the GA, thanking all participants, not only for the fine cooperation but also for the patience and the work done.

### **15. EKF-Dinner invitation by the President**

The PR invites all delegates present to the EKF Dinner later that evening at 2000 in the Postas Hotel, Debrecen.

Signed for approval,  
The EKF Board of Officers:

Alain DUCARME  
President

Hein ODINOT  
Vice-President

Jean-Pierre RAICK  
Technical Director

Dieter HAUCK  
Treasurer

Raf BERNAERS  
Secretary-General

