

EUROPEAN KENDO FEDERATION

ヨーロッパ剣道連盟

**MINUTES OF THE
EKF General Assembly 2017
11th May 2017, Danubius Hotel Flamenco
Budapest, Hungary**

1. Listing of the Representatives

1.1. Registration of the representatives' and observers' names and eventual absences.

Outgoing EKF Board of Officers:

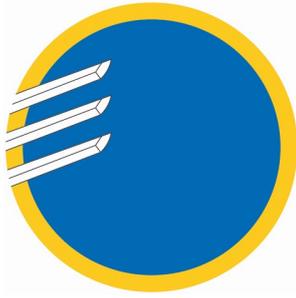
Alain Ducarme, President

Dieter Hauck, Vice-President

Zsolt Vadadi, Treasurer

Jean-Pierre Raick, Technical Director (excused)

Pekka Nurminen, Secretary General

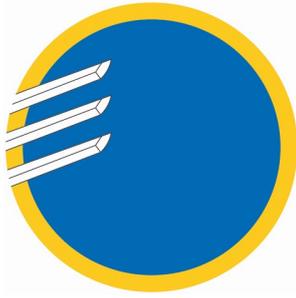


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Representatives of EKF Member Countries:

M. Morancho, Andorra (no voting right)
H. Hofer, S. Moser, Austria,
D. Delepiere, S. Hendrickx, Belgium
A. Arabadjiyski, Bulgaria
M. Lukic, T. Panduric, Croatia
T. Kyncl, J. Gie, Czech Republic
D. Mwaypaya, Denmark
T. Jüristo, Estonia
M.Kankainen, Finland, representing also Sweden by proxy
E. Malassis, France
G. Lekashvili, Georgia (affiliate member)
D. Viebranz, Germany
S. Drossoulakis, Greece
Z. Vadadi, H. Mihalik Hungary
K. Cassidy, Dirk Bakker, Ireland
P. Volodarsky, Israel
M. Petri, Italy
B. Abbadi, Jordan
V. Kindzulis, M. Takao, Latvia
G. Rukas, Lithuania
O. Keiser, Luxembourg
P. Budden, K. Matsuda, Malta
V. Oncea, G. Zugravu, Moldova, (no voting right)
N. Baleski, FY Republic of Macedonia
K. Van Hattum, J. De Jong, The Netherlands
J. Norvåg, G Kincaid, Norway
Z. Misiak, L. Machura, Poland
L. Sousa, Portugal
S. Mahika, Romania
A. Glushko, V.Tolkyshevshky, Russia
V. Kovicin, D. Nikolic, Serbia, representing also Montenegro by proxy
P. Kosir, Slovenia



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W. Ho, South Africa
A. Gonzalez, E. Gomez, Spain
S. Buob, Switzerland
S. Beji, Tunisia (affiliated)
M. Ozyilmaz, Turkey
K. Stryzhenko, Ukraine
C. Mansfield, Fay Goodman, United Kingdom

Montenegro was represented by Serbia
Sweden was represented by Finland

R. Jättkowski, John Howell, Senior Councillors

Y. Sato, M. Miyasaka, FIK

D. Castelli, CIK nominated candidate for EKF Treasurer

It was noted that 37 voting, plus two non-voting and two affiliate members out of 44 members were present or represented at the General Assembly.

Excused or absent: Madagascar (affiliated), Mozambique (affiliated), Slovakia.

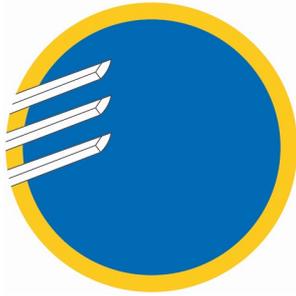
1.2. Checking for the EKF membership fee payment; if the fee has not been paid in due time, the country in question will lose its right to vote.

All member countries except Andorra and Moldova had paid their membership fees in due time. All in all 37 full member countries had right to vote.

2. Opening and Report by the EKF President (PR)

EKF President Alain Ducarme opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

He informed the GA on his decision to step down as the EKF President at this GA. After having served as EKF President since 1984, it was time to say good bye, with satisfaction with the past and confidence in the future. He thanked in particular Hein



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Odinot, long standing Treasurer and Vice-President, currently Honorary Vice-President, Raf Bernaers, long standing Secretary General and Jean-Pierre Raick, long standing Technical Director, who had been accompanying him on this journey, but who were not present at the meeting.

President Ducarme thanked the members of EKF BOD for their work for the EKF and its administration. He also thanked the Hungarian Kendo Iaido Federation, its President and his team for the work to organise the EKC. He also thanked all the volunteers from various countries who had joined the effort.

President Ducarme also expressed his gratitude towards the All-Japan Kendo Federation, ZNKR, represented at the meeting by FIK Secretary General Yukio Sato and Masayuki Miyasaka, Chair of the FIK Anti-Doping Committee. The continuous support of the ZNKR has been primordial to the development of the European Kendo, Iaido and Jodo over the years.

3. G.A. Minutes Skopje 2016

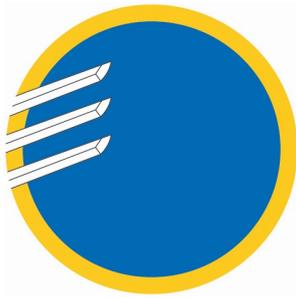
Minutes of the Skopje G.A. 2016 were sent to the Member Countries according to Art. 05.09 EKF-Statutes and have been published on the EKF-website. Since no remarks have been received, the Minutes were approved unchanged.

Germany asked a question on the developments in relation to the status of “non-official” Japanese Delegation as members in grading panels. President informed that there is no change in the position of the ZNKR.

4. Report by the EKF Vice-President (VPR)

VPR gave the following comments on his term of function

The five persons making up the board have quite a schedule and a workload. Between the GA 2016 in Skopje, Macedonia, and this GA, the BO met at five Board Meetings in Brussels, in Skopje and here in Budapest. The BO Members attended and supported the Shinpan Seminar in Brussels, the EKC in Skopje, the EIC in Budapest, and the EJC in Magglingen. EKF Dan examinations up to 7th Dan were held and administrated for Kendo in Brussels, Skopje, Budapest and Deggendorf, for Iaido in Budapest and Modena, for Jodo in Magglingen. A weekend with the FIK Directors from Europe was



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organized in Brussels, to discuss the positions of Europe and Japan and coordinate the European opinions. Trips were made to several countries upon invitation and to prepare events.

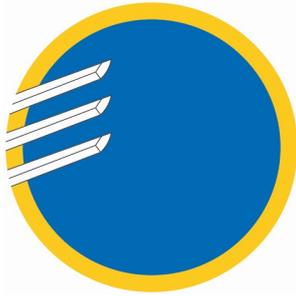
The finances of the Federation are stable with sufficient reserves to execute the job attributed to and rightly expected from a federation. E.g. again the fighters of national team level were offered free lodging and party during the shinpan seminar and the fees for shinpan were reduced. Further activities are planned. Candidatures for future ECs were collected, discussed and prepared. Lots of communications are handled with Member Countries and Japan, most by email.

EKF Web-site

The system – which includes the very good cooperation by Member Countries - works. Thank you to all Country ADMINS who check and update. Please continue that work. However, the work of various countries is quite different in quality and speed, as always, there is room for improvement. The initial enthusiasm, seems to slow down a bit. Please continue to cooperate in the usual quality. We know that certain technical issues have arisen after some six years of operation, including a system drop down immediately before the EKF due to an attack on the system. So, we intend to start a new version / master release of the system on a new server soon!

After these years of operation, I want to recall the very fundamentals of the Dan Grades Register: It is a REGISTER, a public source of information people turn to for information and rely on it. Even the ZNKR is looking at our register. So please, handle it with utmost care and sincerity and let us know any mistake you spot.

The registration system firstly, only makes the work possible for so many countries, and secondly, is the best guarantee for the continued quality of exams and grades! Most important is the timely registration of exams for validations, which should be according to the rules two month in advance at the least: It serves various purposes: All member countries and interested persons get the information on the exam via the website. Furthermore, the organising country can be assured that there is no problem with the composition of the jury. The validation process itself proved in most cases quick and simple.



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This was mentioned last year, but still seems still relevant: An issue in relation to ZNKR and Menjo has arisen recently in individual cases. ZNKR – who upon an application for an exam in Japan request a Menjo from the prior grade – refused to accept Menjo from countries who were EKF members, but not FIK members. We try to resolve that matter with the ZNKR and advise such countries to amend their Menjo Forms with the following language:

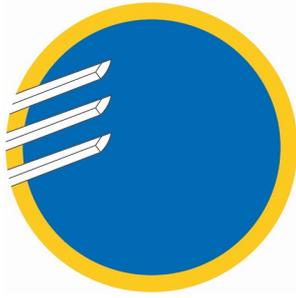
“The XX Kendo Federation is a Member of the European Kendo Federation (“EKF”). This exam and the jury was validated with the EKF according to the EKF Grading Rules and the results hereof are registered in the EKF Dan Grading Register. According to the EKF Statutes the grade awarded herein shall be recognized by all EKF Member Countries.”

At the moment, approx. 46.400 Grades of 14.900 active (Yudansha) are registered and administrated. The tendency of exams and grades is still clearly rising. For 2016, out of 444 Exams 2213 grades were registered. Also, the absolute number of Yudansha is rising; we hope the Countries keep their records as to active members up to date. But be carefully and look at your own statistics, to see if the development and basics are sound.

Yellow Cards were produced and distributed upon receipt of result lists and only upon such receipt, which also were published on the EKF Website. As such reports are published, you may want to apply a minimum of care to their layout, as this reflects on your Federation! Yellow Cards are distributed at the four EKF events (Ref-Sem, EKC, EIC and EJC) and mailed only if necessary.

Two little useful tricks: a) copy the home countries of foreign candidates when reporting results by email and b) when issuing permissions to grade abroad, please enter the person’s details into the data base, even without grade. This makes any necessary correction or amendment so much easier.

The EKF registration system for the Referee Seminar and the EKC / EIC / EJC now has been tested repeatedly and seems to work. We will also renew and improve this system. The fundamental idea is that an organising country avoids the burden to set up such system just for one event and the participants are not faced each time with a new and different system.



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You will also meet again an improved EKF / EKC Championship system, so look at the screens and printouts. This system – except the screens – fits into a 30 kg box and was brought here from Austria, where it was developed with the help of Harald and Stefan. The idea here again is that the system shall be reused upon future events and further improved and possibly also shall be available to national events.

EKF anti-doping commission

Luckily, no serious developments occurred. WADA lists were routinely changed, check them out on the respective websites. In any case, try to stay out of AD-Trouble, remain watchful, have an organisation (at least one AD correspondent) ready, inform your people on the rules and lists and hope the best. Information is published on the EKF website and on Facebook, as the case may be. See also the extensive website by WADA.

There is a very good ongoing cooperation with the FIK on antidoping issues, some materials are – will be – available on the website. The national federations have been invited by FIK to get into contact with their NADA (National AD-Administrations).

In the context of the Anti-Doping Discussion, Dr. Masako Miyasaka, Chair of the FIK Anti-Doping Committee, gave a short presentation, followed by discussion. Questions and comments from Denmark, Germany and Hungary were notes and answered.

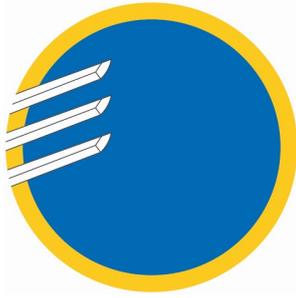
It was agreed to pursue the Anti-Doping work, including a possibility of testing in future EKC. It was agreed that a report on Anti-Doping measures already applied by different member federations be prepared for the next GA.

5. Report by the EKF Treasurer (TR)

5.1. EKF Financial Report 2016

The Treasurer presented the EKF Financial Report 2016. Operational reserve corresponding to one-year budget has been achieved. The sound financial situation allows projects to be planned and implemented by EKF.

Belgium, Russia and Portugal were given the prizes of fastest payment of membership fees. The Treasurer indicated that if there are problems with membership fees, there is



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a possibility for getting a short-term support by the EKF, but that requires active communication and agreement between the EKF and the federation concerned. It is not good to let the backlog grow.

For payment, PayPal is now available.

Treasurer reported the GA that there had been a problem with auditing due to long absence of the Auditor. However, using the Reserve Auditor elected by the GA in Clermont-Ferrand, auditing had been carried out properly.

EKF Reserve Auditor Jindrich Ziegelheim gave a report to the GA: Access to all material, minutes and invoices was impeccable and the material is well organised. All bills were correctly accounted; good accounting practice has been followed. The Reserve Auditor recommended accepting the 2016 financial report. Written auditing report will be attached to the minutes.

The General Assembly approved EKF Financial Report 2016 unanimously.

5.2. 2018 Budget

The Treasurer presented a proposal for the 2018 budget. He explained that the proposed budget is in deficit, deficit meaning an operational reserve to execute development projects.

Questions and comments from Greece and the United Kingdom were answered.

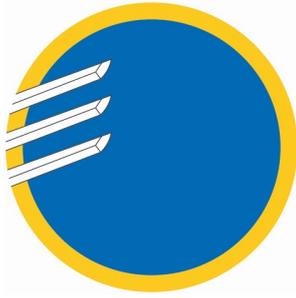
The EKF 2018 budget was approved unanimously.

6. Report by the Secretary-General

The Secretary General mentioned annual events managed by EKF administration and which require lots of communication with Host Organisation, member countries and ZNKR:

- Jodo: EJC

- Iaido: EIC plus one high-level Iaido seminar with EKF 6 and 7 dan examinations



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- Kendo: Shinpan Seminar, EKC and one or two high-level kendo seminar with 6th and 7th dan examinations

- EKF General Assembly

The SG thanked all federations for improved respect of deadlines. The new registration system established on the EKF website is working well and facilitates event organisation greatly. Also, the respect of payment deadlines is good.

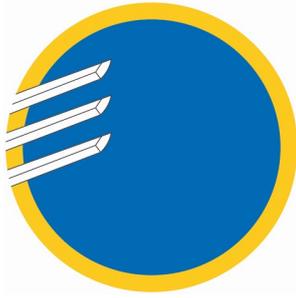
Biggest organisational challenge is the annual Kendo Referee Seminar in Brussels, which is organised by the EKF Board almost completely, with the help of Belgian ABKF. In the 2017 edition, a new cancellation policy was introduced, and it proved to be successful: virtually no last-minute cancellations took place. The Board has studied proposals to relocate the event to another country and city, but several arguments - accessibility, price, improved accommodation and catering services - favour keeping the present place, ADEPS in Brussels, Belgium.

Proposals for High Level Kendo and Iaido Seminars with possibility to invite an official ZNKR Delegation for 6th and 7th dan examinations were welcomed. The location of seminars will be decided upon availability of organising country, based on equal rotation and the demand for exam in the region.

Mailing lists will be developed so that they are based on subscriptions (unsubscriptions) rather than SG updating mailing lists. It is necessary that all communication to presidents/secretaries in national federations are distributed to teams and other interested persons. A Facebook-profile with over 2000 followers facilitates communication.

The grading administration needs to be reviewed after the setting up of the new Board of Officers. Technical assistance for the Board is considered.

The SG pointed out the correct order of granting nationality exemptions in the European Championships. First, but separate issue is the transfer of the EKF administration to the country where the person is having his/her main activity, and where she/he might potentially become a member of a team. The transfer of the administration can be requested anytime, and carried out in agreement with the original federation and the new federation. Nationality exemptions are granted for one European Championship at



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the time, and are considered only for persons who are permanently established in their new home country. Also, the transfer of the EKF administration should be completed beforehand, since it is also one of the criteria for judging the permanent links to the new country.

Questions from Portugal, Georgia, Denmark, South Africa and the Netherlands were answered.

7. Report by the Technical Director (TD)

In the absence of the Technical Director, the SG distributed his report in writing and read it aloud to the general Assembly as follows:

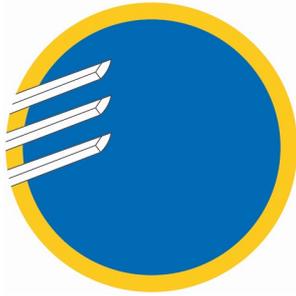
“Before starting the 2016 European Kendo Championships event we were faced with many questions regarding its organization associated with difficulties conducive to malfunctioning; to mention a few: a time schedule difficult to hold or very short Geikos on Friday and Saturday.

We then thought about several solutions to overcome these problems, for example: to increase the duration of the championship, activate more shiai-jo, split the championship by separating team and individual tournaments ...

Finally, we stuck to the simplest formulation consisting in a new distribution of categories that we renewed this year as it works well with subsequent respected timetables, two geiko of about one hour each, each closure of the day at a reasonable time.

Another reason of being satisfied is that we keep some slack in the schedule allowing us to welcome during further editions the eventual (and also desirable) increase of attendance in each category. This feature would not impact the current access to the final tournament for two teams in each group, a feature that compensates for differences in practice level between countries, and which is not employed during the WKC.

It remains that the event is of three days full for the referees, note all the attention it requires, and we are happy for this year of having hired four additional referees (7 per shiai-jo).



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Regarding the organization held by the Macedonia, it was in all points exemplary and efficient, technically assisted by Uwe Kumpf and his team. Again, many thanks to them. Thanks to Zlatko, Nicolas and their friends, all the event was a big success in terms of practical organization, shared conviviality; they all have shown us the possibility to gather both efficiency "in the field" and human warmth.

EIC, Budapest and EJC, Magglingen

Unfortunately, I did not attend both events, making that I can only echo of the very good feeling associated with the organization. The question of sportification for these two disciplines is perhaps more important than in Kendo. This trend tends to let behind the "Budo values" already hard to define clearly. Our thought about this point is far from being over.

In terms of practical organization, it comes down that we should apply the rules more strictly, notably with regard to the use of scoreboard for example.

European Referee Seminar: EKF/FIK Referee meeting.

It is an essential event of the year linking practice, formation, but also associating the training and selection of referees. We benefit from friendly moments, practice of the Geiko, as discovering new personalities, amazing instructors from the ZNKR, all this in a framework sometimes criticized but still fertile and appealing.

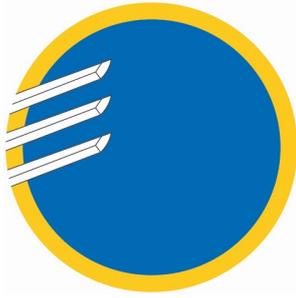
The system satisfyingly persists with a quite constant number of attending people (see appended list). Nevertheless, a remark arises about the general increase of the European level.

It seems that we could be more demanding on some invited competitors.

Still in the domain of referring, I mention here a question raised by the German federation, a question already posed during the general assembly of 2014 in Clermont-Ferrand – France.

We formulate today the same answer as before, nothing having changed in that matter.

To conclude, we are reminded that the most important dates for incoming events are:



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July, 22, 2017: 6 and 7 dan Kendo examination in Budapest.

September, 8, 9, 2017: 16th EJC Heidelberg.

November, 3-5, 2017: 24th EIC Torino.

December, 10, 2017: 6 and 7 dan Kendo examination in Modena.

February, 2-4, 2018: ERS seminar, plus 1 to 7 dan Kendo examination, Brussels

May 2018: 6 and 7 dan Iaido examination.

September 2018; 17th WKC Incheon Korea.

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2019: 29th EKC in Belgrade, 50th anniversary of the EKF.

Thank you for your attention and your understanding of the present situation.”

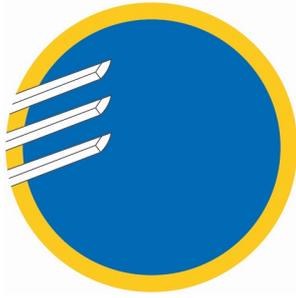
The report of the Technical Director was unanimously approved.

8. Expulsion of Andorran FADKEN

In accordance with to Article 10 of the EKF Statutes, and according to the mandate given by the General Assembly 2016 in Skopje, the Board of Officers propose the General Assembly that FADKEN, Federació Andorrana de Kendo, be expelled from the EKF due to continuous breach of membership obligations.

The intention was notified to Andorra and all Member Countries in the GA invitation in February 2017. The FADKEN of Andorra has been approached continuously in order to regularise their situation.

Vice-President and Treasurer presented the situation. The proposal of Board of Officers was based on continuous omission to pay the EKF membership fees, the de facto cessation of the activities and the contact with Andorran Sports Authorities. The pur-



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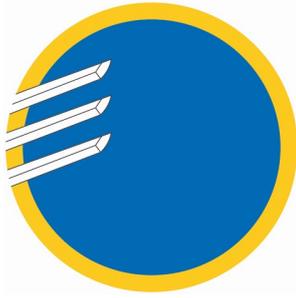
pose was not to punish Andorran practitioners or Andorra as a country, on the contrary. The purpose is to allow a formation of a new federation, should there be willingness to do that, and to end the stalemate which has lasted many years, leading to financial and reputational loss for the EKF.

Andorran representative used his possibility to express his opinion and to give an explanation of the situation. He appealed that the GA would not follow the Board's proposal.

Question by Germany on possibility of approving a new Andorran federation to the EKF was answered affirmatively.

President closed the discussion. It was noted that according to Article 10 (5) the decision requires two-thirds (2/3) majority of members present in the General Assembly.

All 37 voting members present took part in voting. There were 25 votes in favour of Board's proposal, 4 against and 8 abstentions. The qualified majority of two-thirds was reached in favour of the proposal. The FADKEN of Andorra was expelled from the European Kendo Federation.



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9. Coffee Break

10. Elections

The President opened the meeting after the coffee break. He gave the floor to SG who briefly explained the procedure for elections, as outlined in the agenda.

It was agreed that the outgoing President Alain Ducarme chairs the Assembly for the voting procedure.

It was agreed that if there is only one candidate, the vote will be an open vote, and if clear majority is found, the person is elected by acclamation.

It was noted that for the election of the Vice-President, a secret ballot will take place. The President asked three tellers from Norway, United Kingdom and Serbia to assist him in counting the votes.

The President proposed to move to the elections separately per Office.

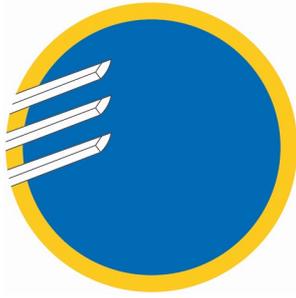
10.1. Election of the EKF President

The President noted that Mr Dieter Hauck, Austria, longstanding EKF Vice-President, was the only candidate for the office of EKF President.

The President gave floor to Dieter Hauck for small presentation.

Dieter Hauck presented his candidature and also the team that he wished to support him in his Office.

Dieter Hauck was elected as the President of the European Kendo Federation by acclamation.



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10.2. Election of the EKF Vice-President

The President noted that there are two candidates:

Mr Zsolt Vadadi, Hungary, longstanding EKF Treasurer and HKF President, and

Mr Spiros Drossoulakis, President of the Hellenic Kendo Iaido and Naginata Federation.

The President gave floor to both candidates for a short presentation.

Zsolt Vadadi and Spiros Drossoulakis both presented their candidatures.

The President closed the discussion and moved to secret ballot. He asked the tellers to assist him in the counting of votes.

After all full members with voting right had cast their vote, the Assembly was interrupted for counting of the votes. After counting, the President declared the result:

Zsolt Vadadi 22 votes

Spiros Drossoulakis 15 votes

Zsolt Vadadi was elected as the Vice-President of the European Kendo Federation.

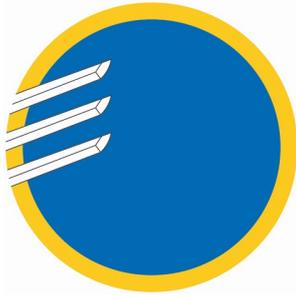
10.3. Election of the EKF Secretary General

The President noted that Mr Pekka Nurminen, Finland, long-standing Secretary General, was the only candidate for the office of EKF Secretary-General.

The President gave floor to Pekka Nurminen for a short presentation.

Pekka Nurminen made a short presentation.

Pekka Nurminen was elected as the Secretary General of the European Kendo Federation by acclamation.



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10.4. Election of the EKF Technical Director

The President noted that Mr Jean-Pierre Raick, France, long-standing Technical Director, was the only candidate for the office of EKF technical Director.

Since Jean-Pierre Raick was excused from the Assembly, and his credentials are well-known, no presentation was made.

Jean-Pierre Raick was elected as the Technical Director of the European Kendo Federation by acclamation.

10.5. Election of the EKF Treasurer

The President noted that Ms Donatella Castelli, Italy, former President of the CIK, was the only candidate for the office of EKF Treasurer.

The President gave floor to Donatella Castelli for a short presentation.

Donatella Castelli made a short presentation.

Donatella Castelli was elected as the Treasurer of the European Kendo Federation by acclamation.

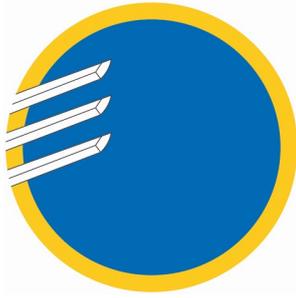
10.6. Election of EKF Directors in FIK

The President proposed that the Federations of present FIK Council Nations France, Germany and Italy represent EKF in FIK Board of Directors. He proposed that their Presidents will be EKF delegates: Mr Eric Malassis for France, Mr. Detlef Viebranz for Germany. He noted that Mr Navilli from Italy will delegate his position to Mr. Gianfranco Moretti, former President.

The proposal was approved by acclamation.

10.7. Election of EKF Auditor and Reserve Auditor

The President noted that Mr. Jindrich Ziegelheim, Czech Republic, current Reserve Auditor, was available as a candidate for the office of EKF Auditor and Mr Sorin



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Mahika, Romania, was available as a candidate for Reserve Auditor, and that the outgoing Board of Officers propose them to the tasks concerned.

The proposal was approved by acclamation.

10.8. Acceptance of the Office, closing of the elections

In Accordance with the Article 6 (2) (d), the President asked the elected persons if they accept the respective Offices. All answered affirmatively.

Alain Ducarme, outgoing President, congratulated the newly elected and invited the elected President Dieter Hauck to take Office and continue the agenda.

The elected President Dieter Hauck thanked the General Assembly for the trust and support.

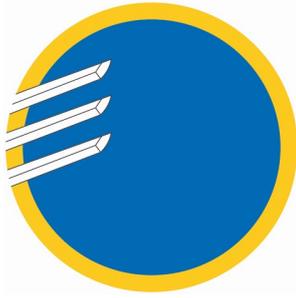
He thanked the outgoing President Alain Ducarme and acknowledged his service to the Federation with the following words:

“In 1980, Alain Ducarme was elected as Secretary-General in London, in 1984 in Brussels he became President of the EKF. Then, nine Member Countries were present, two absent (one of them Austria!). Today, the EKF has 45 member countries - 40 of whom sent fighters to this 28th EKC, close to 15.000 active yudansha and a thriving year around life of Kendo, Iaido and Jodo events, such as championships, seminars and exams.

Though this certainly is the result of the work by local clubs and the national federations, Alain Ducarme and his team contributed in many and most of the time unseen ways to those achievements. Today Alain is nanadan renshi Kendo and yondan Jodo – and still searching for deeper insights into the secrets of life.

As an obviously insufficient token of appreciation I would like to hand over a small gift to him, to say thank you and to commemorate his services and achievements. I hope you like it!”

The President unveiled the portrait of Alain Ducarme.



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The General Assembly gave Alain Ducarme a long and sustained applause in recognition of his work for the European Kendo Federation.

11. Nomination of Honorary President and appointments to Senior Councillor Group

11.1. The President proposed, in accordance with a proposal from Germany, to nominate Alain Ducarme as Honorary President of the European Kendo Federation.

The proposal was approved by acclamation, with long and sustained applause. Alain Ducarme accepted the nomination.

11.2. The President proposed that the Senior Councillor Group be completed by appointing the Honorary President Alain Ducarme and the Honorary Vice-President Hein Odinot as members of the Senior Councillor Group, previously composed by Wolfgang Demski, John Howell and Rainer Jättkowski.

The proposal was approved by acclamation.

12. Affiliations

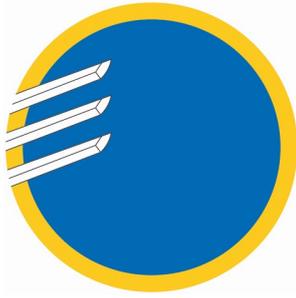
12.1 Lebanon

The Secretary General presented the application of Lebanon:

Application documents were attached to the agenda. According to information received after the agenda was sent, the application file is formally incomplete. The application is supported by two Member Countries, but one of the support letter comes from a club level, not from the national federation.

In any case, the Board of Officers would not recommend the approval of the application, due to the low number of practitioners. The Lebanese federation agrees to leave the application pending.

The report of the Secretary general was noted.



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12.2 Other affiliation issues and contacts

It was noted that exchange of messages with Armenia and Malawi has taken place.

13. EKF Relations with FIK and ZNKR

President Hauck presented the point on the agenda.

Relations with the ZNKR:

Discussion with the ZNKR on the issue of increasing number of 6th and 7th Dan examinations in Europe was advancing positively, and for the first time the fourth kendo 6th and 7th dan exam in Europe took place in 2016. This necessitates a system which controls the number of tries of individual candidates during one year to three, i.e. there would be several events, but one person can take part only in three exams per year.

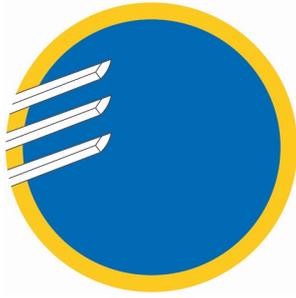
There is still a problem with dan exams by EKF member countries who are not members of FIK. Japan seems to be reluctant to recognise these exams unless the Menjo make an explicit reference to authorization of EKF, which is of course the case when EKF is validating the exams. A formula has been proposed to the member countries to include a reference to the EKF in their menjo. In some cases, the EKF has produced a duplicate or a document confirming the menjo.

European membership in FIK:

President pointed out the need to submit membership application in good time if EKF member countries who are not yet FIK members want to join and participate the 2021 WKC. At present, membership files are tabled by Macedonian Kendo Iaido Federation and Maltese Kendo Federation.

Development on SportAccord:

The future of the SportAccord is not very clear. Next World Combat Games are not decided.



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Next WKC 2018 in Korea:

The preparations for the next WKC seem to be going on the old model of the event, even if the difficulties to organise such an event in three days are clear and well-known.

Both Hungary and France have tabled a bid to host the 18th WKC 2021.

South Africa asked a question on dan examination at the WKC. Mr Sato, FIK Observer at the General Assembly, confirmed that there will be no AJKF Dan examination after the WKC.

14. Future Championships

14.1 Rules issues

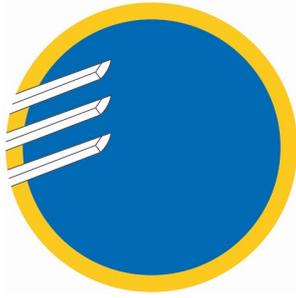
The SG reminded of the situation on European Championship rules governing exemption from nationality requirement (Kendo, Iaido and Jodo). At the GA in Skopje 2016, it was agreed to make a separation of the exemption procedure from national team selection and EC final entry. This would necessitate earlier deadline for all applications, and EKF Board decides for each EC in one go with unified criteria. The deadlines for 2017 EJC and 2017 EIC are approaching, so the new deadline will be fully applied only in 2018 and later.

German made a proposal for appointing the EKC Shimpan-Shunin separately from the Shimpan-in, two weeks before the Referee Seminar. As noted from the Technical Director report, the TD does not support the proposal, referring also to decision made at the GA of Clermont-Ferrand in 2014. President took note of the proposal which will be duly taken into account by the Board.

14.2 Future EKC

29th EKC 2019 (50th Anniversary of EKF)

Candidature of Belgrade, Serbia, was presented by the SKF. The EKC will take place in mid-May, dates still to be confirmed.



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The candidature was approved by acclamation.

Announcement of future candidatures for 2022 and 2023

Norway presented its candidature for hosting the EKC in Kristiansand in 2020.

Italy and Ukraine expressed their interest in hosting the EKC in 2022.

Portugal expressed their intention to present a candidature for 2023.

14.3 EIC

Italy made presentation of organisation of the 24th EIC in Torino on 3-5 November 2017. Venue would be the same as for the EJC in 2104. Pre-entry and final entry deadlines were announced (30.6.2017 and 30.8.2017 respectively). The presentation was greeted by applause.

Poland made a presentation to organise the 25th EIC in Zawiercie (in Silesia, southern Poland) on 26-28 October 2018 (tentative dates). The presentation was considered generally acceptable. In order to allow the future host organisation to advance with reservations, the General Assembly decided to approve the Polish candidature for 2018.

Macedonian Kendo Iaido Federation announced its interest to organise the EIC in 2019.

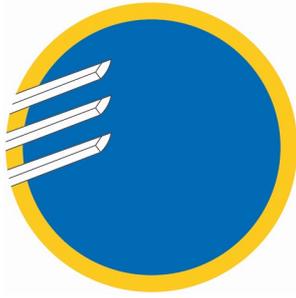
14.4 EJC

Germany made presentation on the organisation of the 16th EJC in Heidelberg, Germany, on 9th-10th September 2017. The presentation was greeted by applause.

Hungary presented its candidature to host the 17th EJC 2018 in Budapest.

Poland made a presentation to host the 18th EJC 2019 in Zawiercie, in the same venue as the 2018 EJC.

Both candidatures were approved by acclamation.



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15. Any other business

15.1. The Vice-President suggested that the EKF and member federations cooperate to find synergies and savings for the air fares to the WKC in Korea in 2018. The suggestion was greeted with interest.

15.2. Germany proposed that there be more consolidation of different national shogo systems, perhaps harmonising key points in the shogo examinations/awards of the shogo, like qualification and number of the examiners.

John Howell, Senior Councillor, and Finland took floor.

It was proposed that a working group is established to make proposals. The Board of Officers shall prepare the item for the next GA.

9. Date of the next General Assembly

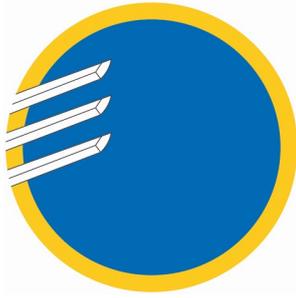
Next EKF General Assembly will be held at the occasion of the 17th WKC, in Incheon, Korea, on Wednesday preceding the WKC, i.e. on 12th September 2018 in the afternoon.

10. Closing by the President

President Hauck closed EKF General Assembly 2017 by thanking all participants.

11. Invitation to the EKF Dinner later that evening

Participants of the GA who registered in advance by the answer form were invited to the EKF Dinner later in the evening.



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