



**EKF GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) 2021
By Videoconference (MS TEAMS),
HOSTED FROM BRUSSELS (OFFICIAL ADDRESS OF THE EKF Aisbl)**

30th May 2021; 1400 – 2000 (CET).

MINUTES

1. Listing of the Representatives

- 1.1 **All Member Federations except one** (MOZ-Affiliated) were registered and received the invitation to the meeting. We welcome guests from ZNKR / FIK¹ (Yukio Sato, Takeshi Takamori), EKF Senior Councillors (Alain Ducarme, John Howell), candidates for offices (Kathryn Cassidy) and representatives for candidate organisations (Andres Cruz).
- 1.2 **There are 44 EKF Member Federations**, having 39 votes in all, as Affiliated and Provisional Members (5) have no vote (03.04., 05.05. EKF Statutes). MKD is not represented: 38 votes are present. The quorum of one third (13) for a valid GA is met.
- 1.3 The **EKF Board of Officers** is present: President (PR) Dieter Hauck, Vice-President (VP) Zsolt Vadadi, Secretary-General (SG) Pekka Nurminen, Treasurer (TR) Donatella Castelli and Technical Director (TD) Jean-Pierre Labru.²
- 1.4 For attendees, see attached list.

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

- 2.1 Welcome to this **EKF GA by Video-Conference (MS Teams)**, a new method that was forced on us by circumstances we never encountered before. However, in Budo we always have to adapt to the situation, so I trust you will manage. Furthermore, we got a coverage of Member Federations never encountered before!
- 2.2 To make the **conduct of the GA** as efficient as possible, please keep discipline in stating only necessary comments. The agenda already was more detailed than usual and contains most reports, so we can reduce the discussion to those points that really deserve and need it. Please also consider the separate voting system (electionbuddy.com), for which each Official Delegate will receive an email to his personal address as registered, containing a link for voting. The system allows the EKF BO to see who has voted and

¹ Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei (All Japan Kendo Federation); International Kendo Federation (FIK).

² For abbreviation and ease of reference, members of the EKF BO will be named by the stated abbreviations for their office and Member Federations by their country Code (ISO-3).



the total result, but the content of the individual vote is and will be kept secret. Behind the scenes, as usual, our IT Support Harald will check the technical aspects and assist as needed. This system will be used for all votes that are foreseeable, those needed spontaneously may be done on the screen. There will be five blocks of votes, the next coming after the previous was completed. So after you submit one block, stay on that page, and wait for the “*Next Vote*”. Before a block is closed, we can see the result but three votes, for the protection of voting secrecy.

- 2.3 All **technical and administrative questions** before, during and after the GA will be jointly addressed by president@ekf-eu.com and secretary@ekf-eu.com, acting closely coordinated. The Secretary-General will be located and available at the official address in Brussels.
- 2.4 The **year 2020** was not standard by any measure. After the Referee Seminar which was held in Brussels at the beginning of February 2020 without any incidents, COVID-19 forced us to cancel all events in the Year 2020 – including the EKC in Norway! - and all since. With some work and good luck, the financial consequences of these cancellations could be kept within low acceptable limits. All European countries were hit by the pandemic and the national governments took measures, different in timing, extent, and duration. The conduct of training in Iaido, Jodo and Kendo to the extent possible at all had to follow the different national laws. The EKF BO kept background operations ongoing, met regularly online, distributed information, and investigated plans and possibilities for the future.
- 2.5 The **impact of the pandemic** is obvious. The individual person was restricted in his/her training activities, clubs and federations could not conduct events, exams, and lost members. This has psychological, practical, and financial impacts. The EKF takes that into consideration by encouraging the update on membership “headcounts” which will likely reduce membership fees. The FIK took similar measures by reducing the fees by a flat 30%.
- 2.6 There seems to be – however slowly and uncertain – a **way out of the pandemic**, made possible by government actions and mostly by the vaccination taking up speed and effect. We hope to be back to operations – still carefully and with restrictions - later in 2021, but we need to be careful and vigilant. We will discuss the options for activities later this year and early next year. All the planning is done under an unprecedented level of uncertainty and probably new solutions need to be found in new situations. This is a *zanshin* – situation, straight from the book!
- 2.7 There will be **elections to the EKF BO** this year, already delayed by the pandemic. This is to give democratic legitimacy to the BO, allows you to express your opinion as to the work the BO has done in the past four years and allows for changes in the BO. Please consider, that the EKF BO is a small group of persons volunteering to manage quite a lot of operations for more than 40 countries across Europe. This is only possible by working



very closely together in a tight group and by using all means to make the operation as efficient as possible. It is for you to judge if we have hit that target.

- 2.8 **Pekka Nurminen** has chosen to leave after ten years of dedicated service to the Federation, we thank him for that and will certainly miss his keen diplomatic instincts and good humour. I hope you welcome with us Kathryn from Ireland to the team, taking the post of a Secretary-General.
- 2.9 **Spiros from Greece** is offering to take the position of Vice-President from Zsolt of Hungary. This is a challenge. This is also living democracy and I know and respect both of them. And whatever this GA decides – the future is uncertain anyway!
- 2.10 We need to address the issue of **Georgia** and two competing organisations there, as already announced in the Agenda and Minutes of the GA 2020. The EKF BO was confronted with the issue already for several years and despite many activities, no solution was found. The EKF BO in good tradition stands clear from internal affairs of its Member Federations and rather implements the Europe-wide set of rules and activities as laid down by the EKF Statutes. However, this is based on functioning and democratic federations in all countries that effectively promote Kendo, Iaido and Jodo for as many persons as possible. Furthermore, the integrity of our grading system and grading register is very important. It guarantees that the persons that teach and sit on juries have the proper qualification and that the grades you and many others hold have a real meaning. If this is compromised, the future of our beloved disciplines is compromised as well. We take this and our job very seriously and we have a long memory, because this is part of our job. Please consider this. So we have to look into this matter.
- 2.11 **Beside these issues**, the BO occupied themselves with blocked bank accounts, partly also a formal consequence of COVID-19 caused delays, a server-update to modernize and speed up the EKF services and a (longer going) project for an EKF - European Kendo History Book.
- 2.12 **The bank accounts** have been unblocked in the meantime and a second bank account is in the process of being installed. The EKF Server has been updated and extended with the support by Harald Hofer, AUT. The Book Project, based on materials collected and drafts by the late Jean-Pierre Raick is being worked on and will take some time. It is planned that there shall be also a Country section with one or two pages for each member federation.
- 2.13 **The Report by PR is approved by GA.**

3. G.A. Minutes Written Procedure 2020

- 3.1 Formal approval of the **Minutes of the GA by Written Procedure 2020**, which have been sent to the Member Countries according to Art. 05.09 EKF-Statutes and have been



published on the EKF website. No remarks have been received within the statutory deadline. The published version is approved unchanged.

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

- 4.1 Several international events were cancelled during the year 2020. Some countries have better adapted themselves to the COVID-19 situation and do some activity locally in the summer and the early autumn. Unfortunately, the pandemic hit all of Europe from mid fall quite seriously.
- 4.2 Anti-doping activities made some steps forward to help those less organised. We asked you to register the AD officer of your organisation in the EKC Website. Also, the URL of your local AD authority. That would help you to keep up with the updates and the legal requirement of AD.
- 4.3 It is our common duty to keep our disciplines intact from AD incidents. I would like to draw your attention to the young generations that might have different perception of budo, sports, and achievement.
- 4.4 GEO reports on national legal situation. VP stresses that certain information is asked, see above.
- 4.5 **The Report by VP is approved by the GA.**

5. Report by the EKF Treasurer (TR)

5.1 Financial Report 2020

- The financial year 2020 will be remembered for the hard stop of most running expenses after the Referee Seminar in Brussels. From February on, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all activities ground to a halt. The overall expenses were less than budgeted!
- Exams and Championships that are the main source of income and expense, were progressively cancelled. The European Kendo Championships, which were due to take place in Norway, was the first to be cancelled and the main task of the Board was to ensure that all Member Federations could recover as much as possible of the already paid participation fees. EKF provided 10K Euro to this end. The amount was recovered when the Norwegian government stepped in to support the organizers.
- The collection of EKF/FIK fees (for 2019 and 2020) and of Shogo registration



fees continued throughout the year. The overall income was also less than budgeted. The overall financial result is consequently positive. The saving account has not been touched during 2020. The reserve is passed intact to 2021. All details are in the documents distributed with the agenda.

- For the report from the Auditor concerning FY 2020 see the document annexed to the agenda. The Auditor (Jindrich Ziegelheim, CZE) states in the GA that he found all income and expenses reported in order and that all funds were used for the purpose of the Federation.
- TR: The invoices 2021 will be sent soon. A second bank account is to be installed to avoid any such situation for the future.

5.2 **The Financial Report 2020 is accepted by the GA.**

5.3 **Budget 2022**

The proposal by TR was distributed as document attached to the agenda and is presented and discussed. The usual methods for a rather standard budget were applied.

5.4 **The Budget 2022 is approved by the GA.**

6. Report by the Secretary-General

6.1 The only EKF event which was organised in 2020 was the Kendo Referee Seminar in February. The organisation of the event has developed a lot in recent years, and the experience has been good.

6.2 Accommodation is outsourced to ADEPS and to hotels nearby. Catering is mainly organised by the participants themselves in ADEPS Cafeteria, and most people seem to enjoy the possibility to go out. EKF organises only the Dinner Party, which has reached a satisfactory level of quality and quantity, with good atmosphere. The second hall is dedicated to free practice. Joint ji-geikos are conducted too. This allows persons who are preparing their exams to take full advantage of the weekend.

6.3 Similar reservations are made for February 2022.

6.4 Otherwise, the work of the Secretary General has not been overwhelming. Occasional questions have been answered and problems relating to persons/grades solved at (relaxed) speed.

6.5 After 10 years in service of EKF, it is time to move out from the EKF Board. This was a



decision I made in my mind, also with my wife, already at my election in 2011. Three terms would be sufficient as Secretary General. I stick to this. I am very grateful for this experience, to you all. I specially thank my fellow Board members – Dieter, Zsolt, Donatella, Jean-Pierre – and the great EKC Technical Team – in particular, Emilio, Enrico, and Harald. This will be a lifelong memory and friendship. I am very grateful to Alain Ducarme and Jean-Pierre Raick for all their wisdom they passed on to me in the EKF Board.

- 6.6 What next? I hope to develop my kendo by continuous training, keeping myself in good health and in good condition. I hope to develop my kendo teaching and refereeing skills at the club and national level in my two home countries Finland and Belgium, and occasionally elsewhere if I receive nice invitations. I am happy that the pandemic struck my head and I started practicing Iaido, where I am currently a proud holder of 6th kyu. I see a nice progress already.
- 6.7 As a farewell present, I give you some food for thought: Think carefully what means “European Kendo Federation”. It is something very precious.
- European.
 - European Kendo.
 - European (sports) Federation.
 - **European Kendo Federation.**
- 6.8 Thanks to the BO and the technical Team. I will be not out of the world and may be available for future assistance.
- 6.9 **The Report by SG is approved by the GA. The GA thanks Pekka Nurminen for his services with a general applause.**

7. Report of the Technical Director (TD)

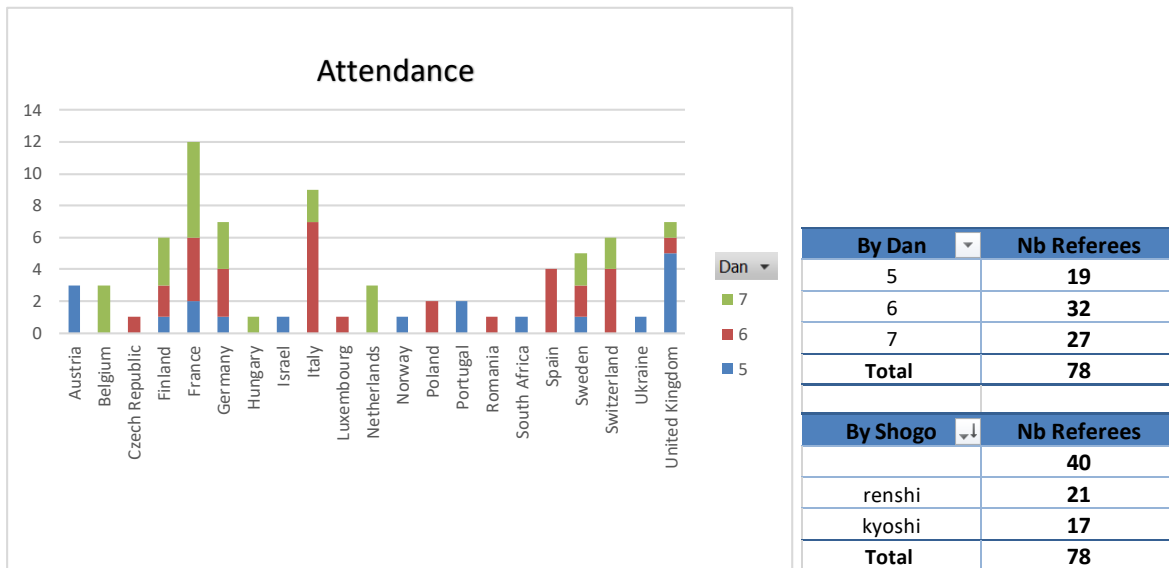
- 7.1 This year 2020 has been in many ways a very special year. It started very well with the FIK / EKF Referee Seminar and very soon after, the practice was interrupted without really any chance, until now, to do keiko like we did before.
- 7.2 Despite this, thanks to the strength of will, and the good will, of our passionate Kendoka, Iaidoka and Jodoka teachers and friends, many initiatives have been launched to continue to practice together despite the distance (video, conferences, webinars, ...). I am sure that all of these experiences will make us stronger than ever before in our practice and in



our mind.

7.3 EKF Activity Report 2020:

- The 29th FIK/EKF Referee Seminar 2020 (Brussels, Belgium).



The first weekend of February 2020, we organized this seminar which was a real success. As we extended the quota by nations, the participation was composed by many high-level European Kendo referees. We can be proud of the image of European Kendo that was shown to the Japanese and American delegation. The seminar selected many new referees with the prospect of the EKC in Kristiansand, Norway. We have also pre-selected a list of future WKC referees. Be assured that we will keep these two results and that they will be considered for future selections. In retrospect and unfortunately, until today it was the last big event in European Kendo.

- Grading major event and achievements: 6th and 7th Dan Exams

	6		7		Total_Registered	Total_Passed
	Registered	Passed	Registered	Passed		
	female	male	female	male		
Iaido						
Tokyo		1		1	1	1
Jodo						
Kofu	1	1	1	1	2	2
Kendo						
Brussels	8	34	3	2	69	7
Total	9	36	4	4	72	10

You can see in the graph above the perfect balance between successful women and men.



7.4 The Technical Director's points for the future:

➤ **Reflection on the future of European Kendo Championships**

Before the pandemic, thanks to the development of Kendo in European countries, the EKC was growing every year. The competition timetable was increasingly difficult to implement in three days. We assume that the future EKC in Germany could be affected by this period of non-activity and that its number of participants could be lower than it was before. Anyway, we hope that in the future we will have to look at this timing issue again.

➤ **Dates and places to organize next examinations for 6th and 7th dan in Europe**

At this stage, these events are planned with 6th and 7th dan examinations. However, it is still uncertain when ZNKR delegations can come again to Europe:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| ○ European Iaido Championships | October 2021 | in Serbia |
| ○ Seminar /grading examination | December 2021 | in Germany |
| ○ FIK/EKF Referee Seminar | February 2022 | in Belgium |
| ○ European Kendo Championships | Spring 2022 | in Germany |

➤ **The next FIK/EKF Referee Seminar:**

The 30th edition of the FIK/EKF Referee Seminar will be held on the first weekend of February 2022 (5-7 February 2022, in Brussels). We assume that we will host a Japanese delegation as usually and so, the content of this seminar could be that of a regular FIK/EKF Referee Seminar. And we will be able to organize a kendo 6th & 7th dan examination. This seminar will be selecting for the referees of the next EKC.

➤ **Comment on the new rules in Shiai as used in AJKF Championships:**

This pandemic period caused AJKF/FIK to rethink certain rules of Kendo competition. In fact, to avoid contamination between combatants as much as possible, the situation at close distance must be kept to a minimum. The last AJKF championships, even without police officers, showed us a kendo without Tsuba-zeriai. It was clear that the elegance and the graphics of the attitudes were much more enhanced. The debate still exists around the fighting spirit which could be the loser of these new rules.

7.5 The Report by TD is approved by the GA.



8. Elections of the Board of Officers (Art. 06 EKF-Statutes)

8.1 Procedure

Ref: Article 6 of the EKF Statutes:

“Proposals for persons to be elected as officers including the persons holding already an office shall be notified by the Member Countries or in case of the Officers, by themselves, to the Secretary General not later than two months prior to the meeting of the G.A. in order to allow the Secretary-General to include the proposals in the agenda (Article 05.07). If no proposals have been filed in time and if at least one third (1/3) of the representatives present agrees, further persons may be nominated. The proposals shall include personal information on and the motivation of the candidate and specify for which office the person is nominated.”

The proposals and the CVs and motivations of new candidates were attached to the agenda. The elections take place separately per office. The voting is be conducted through the electronic voting platform. The outgoing Secretary General Pekka Nurminen and IT-Support Harald Hofer monitor the voting (who votes, number of votes, result of the vote). Nobody will have access to the data on how a delegation is voting.

8.2 The election and the results:

- **Mr Dieter Hauck**, Austria, EKF President since 2017, is candidate for the office of EKF President:

Result: Mr. Dieter Hauck is elected President of the Federation.

- **Mr Zsolt Vadadi**, Hungary, EKF Vice-President since 2017, is a candidate for the office of EKF Vice-President;
- The Hellenic Kendo Iaido and Naginata Federation has nominated **Mr Spiros Drosoulakis**, President of the Hellenic Kendo Iaido and Naginata Federation, as a candidate for the office of EKF Vice President:

Result:³ 18 Zsolt Vadadi, 19 Spiros Drosoulakis, 1 abstention.

Result: Mr Spiros Drosoulakis is elected Vice-President of the Federation.

The Board and the GA thank Zsolt Vadadi for ten years of dedicated service.

- The Irish Kendo Federation has nominated **Ms. Kathryn Cassidy**, Secretary of the Irish Kendo Federation, as a candidate for the office of EKF Secretary-

³ Spain and Russia each declare their vote openly, each for one candidate, as they had problems voting in the electronic system.



General:

Result: Ms. Kathryn Cassidy is elected Secretary-General of the Federation.

- **Mr Jean-Pierre Labru**, France, EKF Technical Director since 2018, is a candidate for the office of EKF Technical Director:

Result: Mr Jean-Pierre Labru is elected Technical Director of the Federation.

- **Ms Donatella Castelli**, Italy, EKF Treasurer since 2017, is a candidate for the office of EKF Treasurer:

Result: Ms Donatella Castelli is elected Treasurer of the Federation.

- **Mr Eric Malassis**, France, President of CNK, is candidate for the office of FIK-Director:

Result: Mr Eric Malassis is elected FIK-Director.

- **Mr Gianfranco Moretti**, Italy, former President of CIK, is candidate for the office of FIK-Director:

Result: Mr Gianfranco Moretti is elected FIK-Director.

- **Mr. Uwe Kumpf**, Germany, President of DKenB, is candidate for the office of FIK-Director:

Result: Mr. Uwe Kumpf is elected FIK-Director.

- **Mr. Jindrich Ziegelheim**, Czech Republic, current Auditor, is a candidate for the office of EKF Auditor and **Mr Sorin Mahika**, Romania, is a candidate for Reserve Auditor:

Result: Mr. Ziegelheim and Mr. Mahika are elected Auditors of the Federation.

8.3 All candidates accept the office they are elected for.

BREAK 17:25 – 17:35.

9. Membership questions

9.1 Georgian Kendo Association (GKA) applies for Membership according to Article 3.5 of EKF Statutes

- The affiliation request from a second organisation in Georgia has been received. The file submitted by GKA is formally correct and complete, and it is supported by Belgium and Germany. Democratic Statutes and supporting documents have been presented and distributed with the agenda. PR introduces the subject, supported by a PP-Presentation:
 - The current Member Organization, Georgian National Federation (GNKF)



joined EKF in 2011 (Gdynia) while no representative was present in the GA. The GNKF was and is led by Mr Lekashvili (PR) and Mr. Homeriki (SG). Support for joining was given by Malta and Denmark. Since then the GNKF was present in the EKF GA of 2017 (Budapest) and 2019 (Belgrade) only.

- The GNKF has provisional Status (EKF Statutes Art. 3.04.)
- During the EKC 2013 in Berlin payments by the GNKF to the German Federation were in dispute, part of the sum remains unpaid to date, as the former President of the DEU Federation has confirmed.
- In 2013 / 2014 the database access of GNKF was suspended following a series of wrong and confusing entries, including for dan-grades. After extensive correspondence, the access was eventually restored.
- In 2016, Mr. Homeriki was found to be registered with a shodan passed in 2010, though it was clear and widely known that he failed shodan 2013 at the EKC 2013, with several members of the BO watching. This was corrected and discussed with the GEO federation.
- In 2021, severe manipulations in the EKF Dan register were uncovered that severely undermined trust in the BO of GNKF. During 2016 / 2017, the records of several persons were totally changed without good reasons and undermining the integrity of the database. For this there is extensive evidence in the logs of the database, which have been analysed and documented. This is the first case since the introduction of the present online database system where intentional misuse was established.
- In 2016, EKF was informed of a change in Statutes for GNKF, including one that effectively perpetuates the post of the current President for several years (5.2.). In 2017, legal action was initiated by a group represented toward EKF by Mr. Cruz. EKF was involved in extensive correspondence on the matter.
- In 2018 former EKF President Alain Ducarme travelled as special emissary of the EKF to Georgia and helped to negotiate an agreement between the two groups. Alain sent a detailed report. The legal action was withdrawn for the promise to hold a yearly GA with general vote, return to the previous constitution and to integrate both groups.
- In 2020 correspondence from both parties indicated that while the agreement seemed to have been adhered to *proforma* only, the two groups were not integrated, and the dispute continued. The kendo practitioners were split in two, a second organisation was formed and registered. The formal requirements to join the EKF for the second and new federation are met.
- **Comments Alain Ducarme:** He reports on his trips to GEO, the negotiations



and the agreement concluded. However, the objective of the present federation (GNKF) is only to protect two men, but not to promote Kendo, Iaido and Jodo in GEO.

- The criteria for a decision between the two federations (Art 3.05 EKF Statutes) will be more closely discussed later and shall be the basis of the GA's decision
- **The new member applicant organization, Georgian Kendo Association (GKA) present their affiliation request.**
 - **Mr. Andres Cruz** presents the position of GKA supported by a PP-Presentation (approx. 35 minutes), focusing on the history of the development of the kendo group under his guidance and the dispute with GNKF in GEO. The negotiation in 2018 with support by Alain Ducarme led to an agreement between the groups, a lawsuit was withdrawn. However, this did not settle the problem, as no fair elections were called by GNKF. GKA promises upon their acceptance into EKF, not to exclude anybody wanting to practise under normal conditions.
 - **Question SLK:** It is confirmed that GKA is an entity legally existing.
 - **Question DNK:** GKA being not a part of a national sports organisation will not be a problem later.
 - **Question HUN:** PR confirms that the EKF criteria for membership are met.
- **The current Member Organization, Georgian National Kendo Iaido Jodo Federation (GNKF) present their point of view.**
 - **Mr. Giorgi Lekashvili** presents the position of GNKF (approx. 35 minutes). He describes the evolution of the GNKF, the national events organized by and the participation of GNKF in international events. He shows copies on the screen of documents with very recent dates, allegedly stating that GNKF is the only Kendo organisation in GEO and that GEO Anti-Doping rules apply to GNKF. No documents have been supplied to the GA in advance, though the issue is known since the GA 2020.
 - **Question PR:** GEO Anti-Doping rules would also apply to GKA; the number for headcount of GNKF (11) in the EKF-system is correct;
 - **Question HUN:** Mr. Lekashvili was registered to an event (Hungary Cup), was present but did not participate in the competition because he was prevented by urgent other business.
 - **Question CZE:** Mr. Lekashvili holds that there are no unpaid amounts for the EKC 2013 in Berlin.



- **Question MLT:** The different between Association and Federation is in size but there is not a legal issue.
- **GRE:** Proposes a negotiated solution now between the competing organisations. Comment PR: This was attempted in 2018, failed and we will not try it a second time.
- **JOR:** Seeks affirmation for the future of the conflict.

9.2 Result of vote:

Replacement of GNKF: 31 approval / 2 objections / 5 abstentions.
Acceptance of GKA: 30 approval / 3 objections / 5 abstentions.

The Georgian Kendo Association (GKA) replaces Georgian National Kendo Federation as a member of European Kendo Federation instead of GNKF. The GA welcomes the new member!

9.3 Kazakhstan

The KAZAKHSTAN KENDO AND IAIDO FEDERATION presented a request for accession three days before the GA and without complete file. This will be investigated further by the BO, reported, and presented to the next GA in due course.

9.4 Morocco:

Informed on a change of legal status of their federation. What has been a part of the Aikido Federation now will be an independent Kendo Federation. This will be investigated further by the BO, reported, and presented to the GA in due course.

9.5 **Mr. Lekashvili** after the election and the announcement of the results repeatedly interferes with and disturbs the orderly conduct of the GA. PR asks Mr. Lekashvili repeatedly to keep the order and follow the protocol. As Mr. Lekashvili insists on his disorderly behaviour, he is excluded from the GA and his access is technically blocked.



10. EKF Relations with FIK and ZNKR

PR informs on EKF – ZNKR and FIK relations since the Belgrade GA 2019:

- The 18th WKC 2021 in France was – regrettably, but understandably - cancelled.
- The Peoples Republic of China candidature for the 19 WKC in 2024 to be held in Shijiazhuang was turned down by the FIK BODM. Now the search for a new candidate is under way. The intention of FIK still is to hold a WKC in 2024, if possible.
- Colombia, Peru, and Philippines have joined the FIK.
- The FIK- Anti Doping Rules were amended – a complex issue.
- The FIK reduced the fees for 2021 by 30 % which is reflected in the EKF invoices.

11. Future Championships

11.1 Rules issues

- Reminder on deadlines for TUE and NERs;
- Proposal by Russian Federation on EKC: Split Juniors by Boys and Girls.
- Adaptation of European Championships Rules to post-COVID-19 situation:
 - Sufficient number of countries need to be able to participate and travel, however, not necessarily all.
 - The rules of the Host Country in relation to entry to the country (vaccinations, tests, quarantines...) and events (maximum number of participants, access of public, distancing, hygiene....) need to be such that Delegations can reasonably cope with them.
 - Rules in relation to participation (documentation on vaccination, medical statement of recent recovery, testing) and in relation to shiai rules (ref. new AJKF Rules) need to be established and implemented.
- Kendo: New Shinai and Bogu measurements (Junior, Nito) from FIK;



- An amendment is proposed by NED for the time rule for EIC / EJC (Participation in Dan-Categories), which shall be amended as follows:

*“A competitor may participate in a category shodan to yondan while holding the respective grade for a time period that is equal to the grade in years plus 12 months as per the day of the championship. **If this time period includes the year 2020, one year will be added to the total number.** Participation in godan and rokudan categories is not limited to time period in grade. Participation in the mudan category is possible only one time.”*

There are no objections from the GA.

11.2 EKC

- **31EKC 2022 Candidature Germany, proposed date 29.4. – 4.5.2022**
 - A presentation by DEU is made, including dates, and estimated prices, the venue will be likely Düsseldorf. The prices are estimates and depend on the number of participants.
 - For numbers of Participants 433/518/543, championship fees are estimated at EUR 325/ 400/ 425 and package prices including Hotel are estimated at EUR 500 – EUR 590.
 - **VP:** Dates 29.4. – 4.5.2021 coincide with the Kyoto Taikai, JPN, which may interfere with ZNKR Sensei schedule and other people wanting to attend that event in Japan. DEU: It is difficult to change the dates, but DEU could try.
 - **Takamori, ZNKR:** At the moment we do not know when ZNKR can again send delegations to Europe.
 - **HUN, CZE:** Question to prices: Prices high for pandemic reasons? DEU: Unknown, main driver is the hall in Düsseldorf. It was very difficult to find a hall at all.
 - **MLT:** Are there assurances as to vaccination? DEU: Development trend is good, no certainty for the future.
 - **The candidature and event are confirmed by the GA.**
- 32EKC 2023 Candidature Italy. **The candidature is confirmed by the GA.**
- 33EKC 2025 Candidature Netherlands. Maybe The Hague. **The candidature is confirmed by the GA**



- 34EKC 2026 Candidature Montenegro. Podgorica. **The candidature is confirmed by the GA**
- 35EKC 2028 Portugal. **Confirmed.**

11.3 EIC

- 27th EIC 2021 in Belgrade, Serbia, **29.-31.10.2021**. SRB presents the event, and it is discussed.
 - Planned dates:
 - Thu 15 July 2021, Pre-Entry opens.
 - Thu 31 July 2021, Pre-Entry closes.
 - Mon 23 Aug 2021, Final Entry opens.
 - Fri 24 Sept 2021, Final Entry closes.
 - Fri 01 Oct 2021, Payment Deadline.
 - Proposed prices:
 - **Registration:** 10 Euro applies to all Officials, Coaches, Competitors, Supporters, Helpers.
 - **Competitors:** 30 euro, applies to all Competitors in Individual Divisions.
 - **Team Competition:** 100 euro, applies to every Team participating in Team Competition.
 - **Seminar:** 40 euro, applies to all participating at the seminar.
 - **Lunch Package:** 12 euro per day, Vegetarian choice is available.
 - **Sayonara Party:** 45 euro per person, Vegetarian choice is available.
 - **FIN:** Quarantine: Not necessary if vaccinated (two doses) or negative PCR-Test;
 - **SWE:** What are the security restrictions and the SRB situation? How to ensure the security? SRB: Usual preventive measures. The hotel will be used only for



the event, no other guests. All participants shall have both doses of a vaccination, maybe no party will be organized.

- **ESP:** We think SRB can organize the event. However, security measures and discipline are needed. It is possible to have the event. Better have a party than have people celebrating in their rooms.
- **The candidature and event are confirmed by the GA.**

11.4 EJC

- 19th EJC 2021 in Stevenage, Great Britain, **17. – 19.9.2021 is cancelled**. GBR withdrew from the EJC 2021 for COVID-related reasons and announces candidatures **for 2022**.
- **The candidature for 2022 is confirmed by the GA.**
- **HUN:** Want to organize a Jodo event 2021. PR: A national event can be organized and will be supported by EKF.

12. Any Other Business

- EKF Ethical Code, idea presentation by Pekka Nurminen.
 - Permission to Launch a project sought, there is no real draft yet. Any draft shall not to interfere with national federations and national laws. No binding document and no legal procedures shall be created. The content will be basically like the Concept of Kendo, promoting:
 - Human dignity and respect of others.
 - Equal right and possibilities to practice kendo, Iaido and Jodo.
 - Promoting health and well-being, including anti-doping.
 - Responsibility for proper educational methods.
 - Non-discrimination and tolerance.
 - Prevention from all forms of harassment.
 - Democracy, transparency, and good governance.
 - **JOR:** Makes a reference to the Jordan Olympic Committee Rules.



- **MLT:** Makes a reference to a Teachers Code of Conduct and will provide materials.
 - **DNK:** Points out that larger federations have appeals courts and sanctions and implementation measures. **PS:** Points at the limited resources of EKF.
 - **The GA agrees that EKF BO and Pekka Nurminen shall follow on with a draft on these guidelines.**
- **Online Gradings in Iaido – Proposal, presentation by Netherlands,**
- **NED** present the proposal as attached to the agenda. This contains quite complex technical and organisational procedures for exams conducted on video without the presence of the jury and the candidates at the same place and at the same time.
 - **HUN:** Pressure is needed in exam by presence of persons, this rather not feasible by video. Maybe this is only needed if the pandemic goes on.
 - **GBR:** The proposal is overwhelming rejected by most dojos. It was feared that the discussion goes in the direction to keep the video exams beyond the pandemic and use it for all arts. GBR is against the proposal.
 - **FIN:** Has concerns with the proposal. It may be a good idea below sandan under a pandemic situation. Maybe we should prepare for a next pandemic. Technically the procedures are quite difficult. FIN has tried with Kendo Kyu-exams and found some technical issues. With online competitions, the experience was that there was the same pressure as in competitions. A proposal shall be made for live recording.
 - **FIN:** Will make a proposal for jumping to the next grade because of the pandemic situation.
 - **SWE:** Support the idea of video exams until ikkyu, but not for yudansha.
 - **JOR:** Finds the proposal a brilliant idea up to sandan. This is because of the extraordinary costs of travelling from Jordan, especially hard on lower grades. This proposal should be kept beyond the pandemic. Such video exam possibilities will significantly lower the costs for travelling.
 - **GRC, TUR:** Are rather sceptical because of pre-recording. The same standards for all shall be guaranteed.
 - **ISR:** Agrees with GRC, in an exam there is a need to see the candidate live. The proposal is a good idea, but only with live transmission.



- **MLT, LIT:** Supports live transmission with clear rules. Such video exam could help with financial or travel difficulties. However, it should not be used beyond sandan.
- **BEL, SER, MOR, SVK and SLO** present their scepticism against the proposal in the Teams Chat during the discussion.

The GA agrees as proposed by PR: Member Federations will present drafts within three months after the GA. The BO will coordinate further drafting and discussion.

13. Date of the next General Assembly

The next GA will hopefully take place in the context of the 31st EKC in 2022, details to be announced separately, once the details of the EKC 2022 are known and more certain.

As per the generally positive experiences with this video / online GA, the voting system and the extraordinary coverage with Member Federations, POL proposes to consider also for future GAs an online or at least mixed setting. The EKF BO will consider.

14. Closing by the President

This is the end, my friends – only of this GA by new technical means and reporting on a strange year. In the name of the EKF BO I thank you for the cooperation here and during the past years. We hope sincerely to come back to the normal way of operations soon and meet healthy and in good spirits also very soon.

See you soon and stay healthy!

The EKF Board of Officers.





Attachments: List of attendees:

Member	Present	Family Name	Given Name	VOTES 30. May 2021
Austria	ok	Ziegerhofer	Klaus	ok
Austria	ok	Salchner	Robert	
Belgium	ok	Hendrickx	Serge	ok
Belgium	ok	Demuynck	Patrik	
Bulgaria	ok	Arabadjyski	Alexandar	ok
Bulgaria	ok	Sagaev	Lubomir	
Croatia	ok	Lukic	Marko	ok
Czech Republic	ok	Ziegelheim	Jindřich	ok
Czech Republic	ok	Hoffmann	Tomáš	
Denmark	ok	Jensen	Jens Møllgaard	ok
EKF	ok	Cruz Torres	Andres Jose	GKA
EKF	ok	Cassidy	Kathryn	Candidate SG
EKF	ok	Takamori	Takeshi	ZNKR
EKF	ok	Howell	John	SCG
EKF	ok	Ducarme	Alain	SCG
EKF	ok	Sato	Yukio	ZNKR
EKF	ok	Hauck	Dieter	EKF BO
EKF	ok	Vadadi	Zsolt	EKF BO
EKF	ok	Nurminen	Pekka	EKF BO
EKF	ok	Castelli	Donatella	EKF BO
EKF	ok	Labru	Jean-Pierre	EKF BO
EKF	ok	Hofer	Harald	IT Advisor
Estonia	ok	Freudenthal	Margus	ok
Finland	ok	Pihlaja	Martti	ok
Finland	ok	Raurala	Richard	
France	ok	Malassis	Eric	ok
Georgia (Provisional)	ok	Lekashvili	Giorgi	
Georgia (Provisional)	ok	Homeriki	David	
Germany	ok	Kumpf	Uwe	ok
Germany	ok	Hernschier	Stephan	
Greece	ok	Drosoulakis	Spyridon	ok
Greece	ok	Psaltakis	Dimitrios-Ioannis	
Hungary	ok	Mihalik	Hunor	ok
Ireland	ok	Fernandez	Raul	ok
Ireland	ok	Kiosew	Martin	
Israel	ok	Lurie	Yosef	ok
Italy	ok	Petri	Matteo	ok
Italy	ok	Moretti	Gianfranco	



Member	Present	Family Name	Given Name	VOTES 30. May 2021
Jordan	ok	Malhas	Ali	ok
Latvia	ok	Kindzulis	Vladimir	ok
Lithuania	ok	Zilaitis	Ricardas	ok
Lithuania	ok	Motiejūnas	Aurelijus	
Luxembourg	ok	Keiser	Olivier	ok
Madagascar (Affiliated)	ok	Bernardin	Luc	
Malta	ok	Zammit	James Perry	ok
Moldova	ok	Nastasiu	Anatolie	ok
Montenegro	ok	Djuraskovic	Dejan	ok
Morocco (Affiliated)	ok	Benaboud	Khalid	
Netherlands	ok	Van Hattum	Koos	ok
Netherlands	ok	Van De Wijngaart	Adrianus Frits	
Norway	ok	Nørvåg	Jørn	ok
Poland	ok	Szczepanski	Michal Ludwik	ok
Poland	ok	Malecki	Wlodzimierz	
Portugal	ok	Serrano	Nuno	ok
Portugal	ok	Marques	Pedro	
Romania	ok	Mahika-Voiconi	Sorin-Constantin	ok
Romania	ok	Spiru	Camelia-Nicoleta	
Russia	ok	Aloev	Rouslan	ok
Serbia	ok	Nikolic	Dusan	ok
Serbia	ok	Djokovic	Veljko	
Slovakia	ok	Kulcsar	Robert	ok
Slovenia	ok	Allouche	Eli	ok
South Africa	ok	Grice	Michael	ok
Spain	ok	González Jiménez	Maria Asuncion	ok
Spain	ok	Castro Rabadán	David	
Sweden	ok	Thorsell	Jimmy	ok
Switzerland	ok	Buob	Stephan	ok
Switzerland	ok	Bellivier	Laure	
Tunisia (Affiliated)	Ok	Nouisser	Ahmed	
Turkey	ok	Ozyilmaz	Mert	ok
Turkey	ok	Aydogdu	Can	
Ukraine	ok	Stryzhychenko	Kostyantyn	ok
United Kingdom	ok	Baboolal-Blake	Errol	ok
United Kingdom	ok	Mansfield	Christopher	
Total	74			38