



EKF GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) 2022

**Relexa Hotel Frankfurt am Main
Lurgiallee 2, 60439 Frankfurt, Germany**

Thursday 26th May 2022 at 14:00 (CET)

MINUTES

1. Listing of the Representatives

1.1 EKF Board of Officers (not voting):

Dieter Hauck, President
Spyridon Drosoulakis, Vice-President
Donatella Castelli, Treasurer
Jean-Pierre Labru, Technical Director
Kathryn Cassidy, Secretary General

1.2 Representatives of EKF Member Countries:

K. Ziegerhofer, S. Dirneder, Austria
S. Hendrickx, T. Antoine, Belgium
J. Ziegelheimová, F. Pavlíček, Czech Republic
F. Estudillo, Estonia
T.J. Vikberg, Finland
E. Malassis, France
K. Nikatsadze, A. Cruz, Georgia
U. Kumpf, L. Dombrowski, Germany
K. Matzaras, Greece
M. Kiosew, D. Bakker, Ireland
P. Volodarsky, Israel
M. Petri, G. Moretti, Italy
H. Qashash, Jordan
V. Kindzulis, Latvia
R. Zilaitis, Lithuania
K. Van Hattum, G.J.M. Minnaert, Netherlands
J. Nørvåg, Norway
K. Yearwood, K. Bosak, Poland
S.C. Mahika-Voiconi, Romania
I. Jovanovic, D. Nikolic, Serbia
E. Allouche, P. Košir, Slovenia
M. Grice, South Africa
A. González, D. Castro, Spain
J. Thorsell, Sweden
S. Buob, R. Fleury, Switzerland



A. Nouisser, S. Smoali, Tunisia (Affiliated)
C. Aydogdu, B. Gökmen, Turkey
K. Stryzhychenko, D. Dobrovolsky, Ukraine
G. Kincaid, F. Biscomb, United Kingdom

All of the above, except Tunisia are voting members.

1.3 Proxy Votes

U. Kumpf, Hungary
C. Spiru, Bulgaria

1.4 Not represented

Croatia
Denmark
Luxembourg
Madagascar (Affiliated)
Malta
Moldova
Montenegro (see 1.5)
Mozambique (Affiliated)
North Macedonia
Portugal
Russia
Slovakia

1.5 Out of membership

All member countries except Montenegro had paid their membership fees in due time. Montenegro were not present, but had appointed a proxy, however, as their fees were not paid, they did not have a vote. Their appointed proxy was duly informed of this.

Moroccan membership is currently contested and they are therefore considered out of membership until the issue can be addressed at the GA.

1.6 Calculation of votes and Quorum

30 voting representatives are present out of a voting membership of 39 at the time of the GA. This represents more than one third of members and the meeting was therefore quorate as per Article 05.08 of the EKF Statutes.



1.7 Also present as observers

Nagao Susumu, FIK General Secretary

Abdelhamid el Hamidi el Idrisi, Vice President, and Monami Rachid, Legal Counselor , Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido & Iaido.

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

- 2.1 The year 2021 was again not standard by any measure, but you may have noticed. The WKC in France had to be cancelled. All European countries were still in the grip of the pandemic and the national governments take measures, different in timing, extent, and duration. As well as different in effect and different in the relaxation. 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 – i.e. every two to three weeks - online, distributed information, and investigated plans and possibilities for the future.
- 2.2 When there seemed to be – however slowly and uncertain – a way out of the pandemic, we started to plan – with the great support by the German Federation - the upcoming EKC. Also a EIC in Italy and an EJC in UK are work in progress, further candidatures are a moving target, to be discussed later. It looked all very good – then Russia attacked Ukraine.
- 2.3 We need to address the issue of Russia and Ukraine. I personally find this totally unacceptable, illegal and beyond all moral standards, but your opinions shall be expressed and discussed. There are two motions by Member Federations, both supported by the BO, in this respect to be discussed later. I shall just quote here a line from the Concept of Kendo, that you may have heard from your teachers or have pondered yourself when investigating the reasons for our common activities: “Thus will one be able to love his country and society, to contribute to the development of culture, and to promote peace and prosperity among all peoples.” This is the core of our training. Though we might wield ancient weapons, it is not war we support, hope for, or accept.
- 2.4 We know that the Russian Kendo Federation is not the same as the Russian government. We hope that not all Russian people support this crazy war. But – also looking at statements by international sports federations – I am afraid we cannot now draw that distinction. So we have to look into this matter.
- 2.5 In Morocco, the unpleasant situation of two competing federations arose. As it is a good and useful tradition that only one federation per country can be a member of EKF and there was no chance of reconciling these federations, we need to address this as well.



- 2.6 Beside these issues, the BO occupied themselves with organizing a new postal address independent from private residence and a (longer ongoing) project for an EKF - European Kendo (Hi)Story Book.

3. G.A. Minutes by Video (MS TEAMS) 2021

Formal approval of the minutes of the GA 2021, which have been sent to the Member Federations 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 During this time prohibitions and restrictions, imposed by the pandemic, did not allow much of our technical activities, the Technical Director in his Report will inform you in detail. However, the lack of Technical Activities does not mean the Organization stopped functioning as issues were rising frequently and situation had to be followed closely. In this context, since previous GA, EKF Board has met 20 times, mainly through video conference. It also met 4 times in video conference with ZNKR/FIK Officials to discuss items of mutual interest. In this way EKF Board was able to follow evolutions closely and provide timely solutions to evolving issues.
- 4.2 The lack of activities in the Championships area had an influence on Antidoping Activities, which as you are aware constitutes a field of special interest and falls within the responsibility of the Vice President. Activity in that field was restricted to monitoring evolutions on this field, following WADA updates on prohibited substances, and forming an Ad-Hoc TUE Committee to examine relevant requests for European Championships.
- 4.3 At this point I would like to repeat the requirement, for every federation member of EKF:
- a) To assign a suitable Antidoping Officer.
 - b) To follow closely evolutions on Antidoping field.
 - c) To ensure that practitioners, in the country, are aware of Antidoping requirements.
 - d) To be prepared to deal with Antidoping tests, if demanded so, by respective National Authorities.
 - e) To insert National Antidoping Agency website in the respective section in their Country information at EKF Data Base.

4.4 The Report by VP is approved by the GA.

5. Report by the EKF Treasurer (TR)

5.1 Financial Report 2021

2021 was a very quiet year financially as there was no Referee Seminar of championships. We continued to receive fees for shogo, as well as for examinations that were subsequently



cancelled. Exam fees are never lost, and any fees paid to the EKF for examinations that were cancelled have been held on file, please reassure your candidates.

During this time we opened a second bank account which we will use primarily as a savings account. This is also in Belgium which is where EKF is legally resident, but we wanted to split the risk after BNP blocked our accounts in 2020, which resulted in additional costs to pay for a law firm.

We are not in a bad place in terms of our finances, but we are not a particularly attractive proposition to banks, as we are not investing or speculating. It is not our job to make a profit. Our policy is to have an amount of money there to cover circumstances – equivalent to a budget of full championships for one year.

The Treasurer extended a thank you to all federations for paying on time. Late fees are very few, although we permitted some federations to pay late (i.e. in person at the EKC/GA) to avoid high charges associated with making payments from non-euro accounts.

The positive balance for 2021 on the accounts is slightly misleading as the FIK fees did not get paid until early this year, however there were very few expenses during this period.

The Financial Report and accounts were unanimously approved.

5.2 Report by the Auditor

The EKF Auditor, Jindrich Ziegelheim, was unable to be present at the GA. The Treasurer reported that Mr. Ziegelheim audited the EKF accounts and confirmed in writing that all was in order. The Treasurer went on to thank Mr. Ziegelheim for continuing to volunteer to audit the EKF accounts.

5.3 Budget 2023

The EKF Treasurer presented the budget for 2023. This budget is expected to be more like pre-COVID budgets, including normal expenses for championships, etc. We anticipate making a small loss, but we can afford it as we have some reserves. We are prepared for the possibility that the financial year will be less favourable than shown in the proposed budget, but we do not expect any great difference.

The EKF Budget 2023 was unanimously approved.



5.4 EKF and FIK Membership Fees

There is no change in fees for the current year, that is to say, FIK decreased fees last year and have decided to maintain that same fee. The invoices that were sent out to member federations reflects this.

The Treasurer stressed that the EKF fees are related to the National Federations managing correctly the number of members in the EKF database, and asked for federations to please keep this up to date, and to include all members not only yudansha.

6. Report by the Secretary-General

The Secretary General reiterated the sentiments of the rest of the board, saying that she was very happy to be able to be present with all the member representatives in person. We have already held a successful, albeit reduced, Kendo Referee seminar. We anticipate a successful European Kendo Championships and are planning more events this year for all three arts, including the European Iaido Championships, European Jodo Championships and high-level Seminars and Examinations for Iaido and Kendo.

With the uncertainties of COVID some things were done differently this year. For example, the Referee Seminar was reduced in scale, and we have not used pre-entry for any events. The SG thanked member federations for their cooperation and patience in her first year on the job, which was also a year in which many things had to be done slightly differently. She asked for members to continue to bear with and observe the sometimes tight deadlines for registration and payments, while long-term planning was still affected by the ongoing pandemic situation.

The SG praised the smooth communications with member federations which has helped her to do her role and thanked them for keeping the EKF Database up-to-date. In particular, she asked that they continue to forward relevant information to those in their organisations who should see it, and also to update contact information for a broader range of members and officials, e.g. shinpan, jury members, coaches, etc. rather than just board members. This would allow the EKF to also contact those persons directly where appropriate.

7. Report of the Technical Director

7.1 Report on events 2021

This report was necessarily short, as although we tried to organise several events in 2021, all were cancelled due to the pandemic situation.

The Technical Director's work during this period focused largely on the Provisional Match and Referee Rules as developed by ZNKR, spreading this information to countries and understanding what will be the new way to fight under these rules. The TD asked all members to ensure that the message is well passed to the referees and fighters.



7.2 This year's EKC

We remain in a pandemic situation, but we believed that we would be able to hold the Referee Seminar. By splitting into two categories, pre-selection and the panel of referees for selection, we were able to do this with little risk. It worked quite well. There was no sensei delegation, and TD extended his thanks to Louis Vitalis who led the referee seminar.

TD answered a query about whether the Provisional rules will stay with us post pandemic. The name is “provisional”, but this is a discussion we can have, and maybe sensei will explain this also in tomorrow's meetings and opening ceremony. We can see in Japan that they see changes in shiai conduct, and that the conclusion is that these rules are of benefit for safety, future of kendo, organisation, etc. This is not an EKF decision, but rather, it is something that will be looked at by FIK.

PR added that FIK is much discussing this issue and the direction is clearly that it should become a permanent rule. Several large European tournaments have been held under these rules and after some initial adaptation, it has gone quite well. Most of the very few dangerous situations we ever had in championships resulted from violent tsubazeriai, and also for tournament organisers, the provisional rules results in shorter fight times, which makes it easier to organise.

7.3 The Technical Director's points for the future:

- 31st EKF / FIK Kendo Referee Seminar Brussels (3.-5.2.2023)

Will expect to organise this as normal with all the referees and we hope to have a Japanese delegation.

7.4 Examinations for 6th and 7th dan in Europe:

- Iaido 6/7 Dan Exam 11-12.6.2022 Budapest, HUN
- Kendo 6/7 Dan Exam 30-31.07.2022 Montpellier, FRA
- 29 EIC 2022 2-4.9.2022 Modena, ITA
- 20 EJC 2022 16-18.09.2022 Stevenage, UK
- Kendo 6/7 Dan Exam Nov/Dec 2022 ??

In the normal calendar we have 6-7 dan Kendo exam late November / early December, but at present, we do not know what the situation will be like later in the year. Eric Malassis proposed France to organise the event in December.

PR answered a question from Belgium about Iaido examinations, as the upcoming Iaido 6-7 Dan examination has a ZNKR delegation of 2 members only, is this going to be the case for future examination panels? PR indicated that our understanding is that this is only for this particular event.



VP added that it is not an official policy and has happened before in the past for the high-level seminars that the delegation was two persons only.

8. Membership questions

8.1 Russia

- **We have received a request for suspension (Poland). See Art. 10 EKF Statutes. Discussion and vote.**
- **We also have received a request for expulsion (Ukraine). See Art. 10 EKF Statutes. Discussion and vote.**
- **Finally, we have received comments from the Russian Kendo Federation.**

The PR indicated that both of these motions are very much supported by the board and first clarified what the two options mean. Suspension is a temporary situation, for specific period of time, and after that period of time we would revert back to the same state as before. Expulsion is a permanent, but even in expulsion there is nothing to prevent the same or another federation to apply for membership at a later point in time. In fact this may be the clearer and cleaner situation. Finally, the PR indicated that he had received agreement from the Polish federation to withdraw their motion, meaning that we would vote only on expulsion.

The PR then gave the floor to Mr. Kostyantyn Stryzhychenko, President of the Ukraine Federation, who wished to address the GA. Mr. Stryzhychenko made a presentation calling on the Russian Kendo Federation to be expelled from the EKF on the grounds of Humanity, Budo and Law.

The PR thanked Mr. Stryzhychenko for his presentation. He explained that the Russian Federation was not present at the GA but had been duly informed about the motions and that this GA would be voting on the issue of expulsion. The PR read an email statement from Mr. Rouslan Aloev in which he stated that they could not attend, but wanted the PR to bring his position, which was that the RKF had done nothing wrong, to the attention of the GA. This was duly done.

Mr. Pasha Volodarsky, speaking on behalf of Israel and on his own behalf, referred to alleged communications from the RKF board which are not available to the GA.

The PR responded that as we have a limited view inside the country, we are dependent on information that we receive from inside the country. It may be the case that there are currently two federations in Russia, but the picture is not clear. Reference has been made to other letters from RKF, but the one read today is the only official communication we have received.



The PR answered a question from Belgium as to whether expulsion from the EKF automatically meant expulsion from FIK also. This is not the case, and Russia's membership of FIK would have to be discussed at the FIK GA.

The PR answered a question from Sweden about the status of Russian members' grades if the RKF is expelled. This is difficult to answer and goes to the question of who owns the grade, the federation or the individual. In practice, if the RKF is no longer a member then these grades will still be stored, but will not be visible on the EKF Grade register. If in the future a Russian federation joins the EKF again and these yudansha are members of that federation, then the grades will still be there. From the point of view of the EKF these grades do not exist from the time of Expulsion until a new federation is confirmed as a member, or until an individual yudansha joins another member federation.

- Result of vote: Expulsion of RKF: 25 approval / 0 objections / 3 abstentions.

The motion to expell the Russian Kendo Federation is passed.

The PR stated that we will duly inform the Russian federation on this result and the consequences. It is hoped that this message will arrive to the right persons and can help bring some change, and we hope that situation for Ukraine will improve soon.

Mr. Eric Malassis then spoke, offering the support of the French federation by providing tenugui for the Ukraine federation. He also thanked Evgeny Andreev for his support and fundraising for Ukraine team.

PR added that the Ukraine Federation has the full support of EKF and reiterated our hopes again that the situation in Ukraine will soon improve.

8.2 Morocco

- **There are two federations competing for the membership in EKF, see the attached materials. See for both, Art. 3 EKF Statutes. Discussion and vote.**

The PR introduced the issue by stating that in 2019 (see Belgrade Minutes) the application for membership for the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido, Iaido and Martial Arts, represented by Mr. Nour-Eddine Cheddad, was approved. At that time Kendo, Iaido & Jodo was a section of this federation.

At the GA of 2021 (Video Conference) we were informed that there was a change of name of this federation, but when queried it turned out that it was in fact a new federation. Thus the proper paperwork, information to GA and if necessary, a vote was required. Mr. Cheddad was asked for more documentation so that this could be duly brought to this GA.



Since then it has emerged that there are possibly two new federations rather than just one. When information was requested, some was provided, but some requested information and documents have not yet been provided. Because of the lack of clarity, we are treating this as the situation of two federations asking for membership – this is covered under Article 3 of the EKF Statutes.

Thus the GA must look at both federations and make up our mind which one should be a member of EKF. This is a decision for the GA not for the BO. One federation is represented today in person, the other could not be present, but has sent supporting documentation and a video presentation. The PR then yielded the floor to Mr. Rashid Monami of the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido & Iaido.

Mr. Rashid Monami, Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido & Iaido

Mr. Monami began by stating that the Federation Royal Moroccan of Aikido & Iaido had at an assembly on 15th May 2022, changed their name to the Federation Royal Moroccan of Aikido, Kendo, Iaido, and Jodo. He claimed that, notwithstanding this, and a previous name change in 2019 from “Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido, Iaido and Martial Arts” to “Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido & Iaido”, they are the same federation who were granted membership in 2019 in Belgrade, so are already members of the EKF.

Mr. Monami alleged that Mr. Nour-Eddine Cheddad had been acting liaison between the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido, Iaido and Martial Arts, and the EKF, and that after he stood for election to president in 2019 and was not elected, he formed his own federation called the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo. Mr. Monami also stated that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo is illegally using the term Royal, as for a Moroccan organisation to use this in their name requires authorisation which he claims the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo does not have.

Mr. Monami stated that he disagreed with the PR’s position that there are two federations presenting for affiliation. Instead his view is that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido & Iaido is already a member. As they were already affiliated since 2019, the goal for them is to get back this affiliation as it was previously.

Mr. Nour-Eddine Cheddad, Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo

A video statement from Mr. Nour-Eddine Cheddad, of the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo, was then played to the GA. Mr. Cheddad had wanted to be at the GA in person but was unable due to visa issues. Mr Nour-Eddine Cheddad stated that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo has 60 participants across Kendo, Iaido and Jodo. Their statutes are democratic, and they have sound financial management. Their clubs exist in all major cities in Morocco. They have dan grades in Kendo and Iaido. They hold five Kendo and Jodo seminars per year with Alain Ducarme sensei. Mr. Cheddad claims that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido runs their own national dan examinations in Iaido, which are outside of the EKF. He asked the GA to confirm the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo as members of the EKF.



Discussion:

The PR answered a question from the Netherlands about whether Mr. Ducarme's visits were part of an official EKF activity. This was not the case; it was a private action.

Mr. Monami asked why after there was this situation of two federations, Mr. Ducarme visited Morocco, when any further activities in Morocco should have been stopped after receipt of the letter from EKF on 6th January. On checking Mr. Cheddad's presentation, the PR confirmed that the activities shown were all before 6th January.

Mr. Monami claims that these activities shown in Mr. Cheddad's presentation were actually run under the aegis of his federation, the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido, not under the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo. He further stated that the Logo appearing in the presentation is the logo of his federation, the new logo was only just created, because the new federation was only created.

Mr. Monami answered a question from Poland about his claim that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo is not recognised by the government, given that the GA was provided with a certified translation of an official document dated 11th June 2021 indicating recognition of the new federation. Mr. Monami stated that this is not a letter from the Ministry of Sport, but the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The certified translation of a letter from the Ministry of Sport provided by Mr. Monami dated 7th April 2022 states that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido is the only body recognised by law and licenced by the Ministry of Sport.

Mr. Monami answered a question from Germany about the grade structure in the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido. Currently they have more than 100 members practicing Iaido, with various different grades. Over 40 people practice Kendo, all of these have so called "National grades" (not recognised by EKF). They have just started Jodo, so only two or three practitioners.

TD points out that when the EKF previously contacted Mr. Monami asking him to give the number of persons practicing Kendo, Iaido and Jodo, they were told that it was not possible to get a breakdown of the members for each art. He asks how these numbers were now available. Mr. Monami stated that these numbers were based on the attendance at seminars.

TD responded to a question from Turkey about whether the elections mentioned were democratic elections and whether we have any details. During the time that we prepared for the GA, the TD was in contact with both federations trying to ensure that all documentation was provided. We do not, however, have any evidence beyond the documents presented, and the fact that seminars happened with senseis who we know.

The BKA asked for clarification of the basis upon which the countries who have provided letters of support did so. The PR invited France, Belgium, and Greece to each make a statement in response.



France stated that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo had contacted them asking for the letter and saying that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido, Iaido and Martial Arts had been dissolved. They provided the letter on the same basis that they had done in 2019.

Belgium state that they had information from Kanto and Ducarme sensei, who go on a regular basis to Morocco. They explained that there were some problems in the recognition of national and international grades, and that it appeared that only the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo wanted to continue to follow the EKF rules.

Greece state that they were contacted asking for support. On examining the situation, they saw that current members of the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo were registered with grades in EKF DB, while none of the grades from current members of the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido are registered. It appears that they have no graded members and therefore no capacity to teach. Furthermore, they saw that Belgian colleagues were visiting and running seminars for the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo. They spoke to Mrs. Kanto who provided information. On this basis they decided to support the Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo.

The PR noted for the benefit of the GA that Letters of support should not be treated merely as a formality. Persons signing a letter of support should act as the eyes and ears of the EKF and should have some knowledge of the situation in the applicant federation.

The PR brought the discussion to a close and stated again that we would look at the two applications in light of the requirements under Article 3 of the EKF Statutes. He went on to present a table of comparison for the GA to complete and review (see Appendix 1 hereto).

Mr. Monami again stated that no letters of recommendation were required by the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido, as they are already members since 2019.

The PR responded that some time ago, we explained to Mr. Monami that the GA would go through this process as outlined in Article 3 of the EKF Statutes, so they were aware of this and had time to solicit letters of support and the other required information.

The representative from Switzerland made the comment that it was very confusing that the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido was not able to present accurately the number of clubs for the comparison table. It is very confusing as to who has what rights, and he suggested an independent auditor to clarify the position on each side. It appears to be a legal problem within their country, and we don't know enough to adjudicate. The PR agreed that we cannot decide questions of Moroccan law but can only decide based on the requirements as set out in Article 3 of the EKF Statutes. He pointed out that if the GA does not decide today, then future activities such as grading examinations, etc. will be blocked for another year.

The TD clarified what had been done to prepare both parties for the GA. TD contacted both federations and asked for the documents required under Article 3 of the EKF Statutes. He had more collaboration from one federation than other, and as Mr. Monami has already stated, the Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido believes that they do not have to provide letters



of support, or the information on membership numbers, etc. as set out in Article 3.

It is the TD's understanding that there are active Kendo, Iaido and Jodo practitioners who have split off to form the new Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo. The Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido have presented no evidence of Kendo or Jodo activities, they did provide some photographs of an Iaido event.

The TR suggested that we consider asking the parties to find a solution to cooperate before we allow either organisation to become a member, however, the TD reiterated that they currently cannot organise gradings, or participate in gradings abroad. We want to avoid the situation where all activity in Morocco is frozen for too long, so it is better to decide at this GA.

➤ **Result of vote:**

Membership application of Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo: 18 approval / 0 objections / 11 abstentions.

Membership application of Royal Moroccan Federation of Aikido and Iaido: 0 approval / 16 objections / 13 abstentions.

The Royal Moroccan Federation of Kendo is thus given provisional membership of the EKF.

8.3 Other issues relating to EKF membership:

- Presentation by the Secretary General and, if necessary, by Member Federations:
No other issues relating to EKF membership were presented.

9. EKF Relations with FIK and ZNKR

The EKF President informs on the latest developments in EKF – ZNKR and FIK relations:

- New (acting) FIK and ZNKR President, Mr. Ajiro Tadahiyo.
- 19 WKC in 2024 in Italy or Hong Kong (2025). This shall be decided in the FIK General Assembly to be held in June 2022 by correspondence. Be sure to vote for Italy. There will be a video, materials and voting tools on the FIK Website. The PR responded to a question from Poland as to whether a vote for Italy is also a vote for 2024, while a vote for Hong Kong is a vote for 2025, indicating that this is indeed our understanding. The Hong Kong proposal is likely to be 2025, while Italy is proposing to host the championships in 2024.
- World Combat Games 2023 in Saudi Arabia: The PR summarised the situation to date. A voting questionnaire was sent out to all members asking 1. should EKF participate, and 2. would individual countries want to participate. We had about a two thirds response rate, and of these, the vote was almost exactly split in half, and therefore inconclusive.



The inconclusive nature of the vote showed that there is some concern however, so the position of EKF to stay neutral and EKF will not be active in WKG. EKF will, however, support any member country who is going. The proposed date is October 2023, but this has still to be confirmed.

- Membership of Ukraine in FIK – postponed without the votes of European Directors. The question of FIK membership for Ukraine was raised but FIK proposed to postpone. The European Directors abstained from this vote.
- ZNKR Delegations and Covid – safety: The proposed list of events for the next period where a ZNKR delegation was invited, was discussed above. Understandably there is a high level of concern about safety of ZNKR delegations. The standard of care required by the hosting organisation may be higher than the legal requirements in the respective country. This is important, not only for the safety of the current delegation, but for the ability to get future delegations, so please respect these requirements.
- The FIK reduced the fees for 2022 by 30 % which is reflected in the EKF invoices. As already stated, the reduced FIK fee has been maintained, and this is reflected in the EKF invoices.

10. Future Championships

10.1 Rules issues

1.1 EKC

- 2023 Candidature Italy / France – depending on the result of the WKC Host country selection.

If Italy wins the bid for the WKC they will not host the EKC. There is a backup candidate France.

- 2025 Candidature Netherlands

The representative from the Netherlands confirmed their candidature. They were looking at The Hague, but on testing the facilities they were found to be unsuitable. The championship will therefore be held in Amsterdam. It was pointed out that if Hong Kong wins the WKC bid for 2025 we will have to revisit these plans.

- 2026 Candidature Montenegro.

Confirmed for the capital city of Montenegro. Facilities are all nearby and the Serbian federation will provide support.

- 2028 Candidature Serbia

Serbia proposes their candidacy for 2028.



1.2 EIC

- 29th EIC 2022 in Modena, Italy, 2.-4.9.2022. Discussion, and decision.

The Italian Federation presented a video. The website is www.eic2022.it. No objections were raised, and this candidature was approved.

- Candidature for 2023?

No current candidates. The PR reminded members that if they need information on the requirements in order to decide, the EKF will be happy to provide this. The EKF will also support and help the candidate country.

1.3 EJC

- 20th EJC 2022 in Stevenage, Great Britain, 16. – 18.9.2022. Discussion and decision.

The representative from the UK confirmed their candidacy but had no further details to share. No objections were raised, and this candidacy was approved.

- Candidature for 2023?

No current candidates

11. Any Other Business

- New official address of the European Kendo Federation:
*Spaces Auderghem. Avenue Herrmann Debroux 54,
Auderghem, 1160 Brussels.*

No objections raised; the change of address is approved.

- EKF Ethical Code, presentation by the Treasurer.

The TR presented the document and explained the reason behind it. This will be a developing document, what is presented today is the first version. We may ask why we need this but could equally ask the same about anti-doping. We believe that we follow Budo and samurai honour, but these days we do need anti-doping code, and we believe that it is good practice to also have a written code of conduct.

We know that in this modern era we cannot accept bullying, discrimination, etc. But we are practicing arts developed in medieval times. We must clarify our values. We want to raise awareness, as we know that problems such as bullying and discrimination probably happen in Kendo, Iaido and Jodo dojos. It is likely that we don't hear about the majority of issues, and members will probably just leave.



In addition to the basic statement of code of conduct, there are two declarations we are asking you to adopt and promote to your members. We don't expect that any of this is new or unusual, indeed, it should reflect your current values. All this is doing is clarifying it, writing it down and making it transparent to your members.

The consequences of adopting this at the GA will be a recommendation by the GA to federations to adopt this, and to raise awareness of issues of bullying, harassment, discrimination, or other areas covered by the code.

No objections were raised, so the Code of Conduct was adopted by the GA.

- **The EKF-Story** – The EKF Book Project – Design Proposal by Markus Frey; Report by TR.

The book project is continuing, you have all been contacted about it. The book has two parts, part one is the Story of the EKF, based on Jean-Pierre Raick's papers. Part two is the story of each country, written by you. We have a proposal for cover art from Markus Frey, which is based on an art project where he did ZNKR kata with dye on his hakama to create this design.

No objections were raised, so the cover design was approved.

- EKF Championship System. (PR)

We have received a request to allow the use of the EKC Silver Sake tournament system for national championships. This system was developed by Harald and his team. The PR pointed out that while the system looks smooth from the outside, a lot of work still has to happen behind the scenes at each championship to enable its use. Some development would be required to simplify the system and create a web app version so that countries can use it themselves. The EKF are therefore calling on member federations to find volunteers among their membership to form a group of IT professionals who can work on this to transform the system into something that can be used by all of the federations.

The PR responded to a question from Poland about whether the system worked for all arts and clarified that it is currently only for Kendo.

12. Date of the next General Assembly

The next GA will hopefully take place in the context of the 32nd EKC in 2023, details to be announced separately, once the details of the 32nd EKC 2023 are known and more certain.

13. Closing by the President

This is the end, my friends – only of this GA. In the name of the EKF BO I thank you for the cooperation here and during the past years. As we can meet again in person, also the traditional invitation to the EKF Dinner can follow now, details to be announced by the VP!



See you soon and stay healthy!

Appendix 1: **Table: MOROCCO KENDO, IAIDO, JODO Federations Art. 3 para 5
EKF Statutes**



Appendix 1:

MOROCCO KENDO, IAIDO, JODO Federations
Art. 3 para 5 EKF Statutes

	FRMKenM	FRMAI
Recommendation Letters	GRC, FRA, BEL	
a) Practicing Members	60	
• Kendo		40
• Iaido		100
• Jodo		0
b) Democratic Statutes	ok	Draft
c) Financial Status	Independent	Government financed and private
d) Representativity		
• Number of Clubs	K7, I4, J1	Dont know
• Distribution	Sale, Casablanca, Rabat, Marakesch,	
• Approval by gvt. bodies	ok	ok
e) List of MOB		
• Grades		K 4 Ikkyu I 30 sandan national J
• Practice Record	Ducarme, Kanto,	
• Kendo	Cheddad K1	
• Iaido		
• Jodo		
f) EKF Grading Register	K1, 17 Mudan	
g) National event calendar	Rabat Kendo, Iaido 2018 Fes Kendo 2019 Rabat Kendo 2019 Agadir Kendo 2020 Rabat Iaido 2020 Rabat Kendo 2021	
h) EKF Fees		
i) European Events		
j) Nationality of Practitioners		
k) Foundation date	2021	2012