

Start: 10:20

Location: Florence, Camping Firenze

End: ??

Attendees

- Rahel Liviero (Switzerland)
- Claudia Leuch (Switzerland)
- Samson Rentsch (Switzerland)
- Chula Bruggeling (Netherlands)
- Robin Miere (Netherlands)
- Fenja Höbling (European Quidditch Federation)
- Sarah Woolsey (United States)
- Felix Linsmeier (European Quidditch Federation)
- Ragnhild Dahl (Norway)
- Martin Beyer (Norway)
- Marian Dziubiuk (Poland)
- Hana Vrbovska (Slovakia)
- Martin Mornar (Slovakia)
- Nina Heise (Germany, until 11:10)
- Alberto Santillian (Mexico)
- Armand Cosseron (IQA)
- Matt Bateman (UK)
- Lena Mandahus (Austria)
- Merryn Christian (Australia)
- Jill Staniac (Canada)
- Michael Skacha (Czech Republic)

1 Welcome and Introductions

- Luke welcomes the attendees and the board member introduce themselves

2 Quidditch Europe

- Quidditch Europe (QE) becomes European Quidditch Federation (EQF)

3 Statement by the board

- Luke reads a statement about what the Board has achieved and has not achieved in the last 18 months.
- Achieved:

- Financial Statements
- World Cup
- Not Achieved:
 - Incorporation
 - Change of name
 - A good World Cup
 - Resolving the Uganda issue

4 Q&A session

Matt Bateman (UK):

- Feeling that IQA is coming with a lot of silence.
- Would make sense to start with a smaller IQA.
- IQA is doing too much right now and a lot of things are not done properly.

Chula:

- Agree, IQA should focus on the basics.
- Continue with WC and Continental Games.
- A couple of side projects should be dropped.

Bex:

- What side projects except for Bursary Program and Gender Committee.

Merryn:

- Should we really keep going with Continental Games? Maybe just keep European Games? There is Asian Quidditch Cup after all.

Luke:

- There are also some options to outsource the event organisation, e.g. to Quidditch Australia for Oceanic Games.

Alex:

- We are the IQA (includes NGBs), how do you feel about that?

Matt Bateman:

- We merely feel like we are dealing with a 3rd party. There is only the IQA Congress facebook group and emails every once in a while.

Discussion around that the IQA is lacking people to do things. Some people say NGBs should step up and provide people, others argue that NGBs are struggling to find enough people for their own boards, so they do not have people to spare.

Felix:

- First thing would be to be more open and transparent (NGB digest are a great start for that).

Matt:

- Simply put: People don't trust the IQA right now.
- IQA should be a active, noisy organisation on Email and Social Media.

- IQA should focus on Events, Rulebook and Communications

Felix:

- A lot of decisions can be justified quite easily if given reasons.
- Just be more open on the thought process. It really is the silence that kills trust.

Andy:

- Different NGBs have different priorities. Many smaller NGBs would like resources for development, bigger ones want events, rulebook and communications.

Alberto:

- Probably we can get more volunteers by doing better on Communications.
- Still think that WC was a success. There are issues and problems, but WC has grown from 21 to 29 teams, the event got bigger, ...

Robin:

- A important aspect also is lacking goodwill which goes both ways (IQA → NGBs and NGBs → IQA)

Chula:

- Relaying things from some other NGBs (Sweden, UK, Germany):
 - The IQA is trying to do big gestures (Uganda, QC Opening Ceremony) but fails at small things like publishing referee schedule.
- The IQA should try to make better use of well established structures in NGBs or EQF.
 - EQC has successfully organized EQC for several years now, but they do not accept help for e.g. European Games.

Jill:

- It should be easier to contribute small things, a lot of it already exists in the big NGBs (e.g. kidditch guides, ...)

Felix:

- IQA should define key areas of interest and focus on these, and less on spectacle.
- In the past the corporations the IQA has partnered with did a lot for the spectacle but not so much for the actual event running. Maybe consider not partnering with non-quidditch organisations anymore for the next few years?

Alex:

- There will be a SWOT analysis session later around the name quidditch. The uncertainty around the branding creates a lot of missed opportunities.

11:10 Alex Benepe and Nina Heise (DQB) are leaving to catch a train.

World Cup Finance

- All costs are rough estimates at this point
- Expected costs 40 000 €.
- Real costs 52 000 €.
 - Many unexpected costs, problems with tickets.
- Income: Total 54 000 €.

- Player and team fees 40 000 €.
- 8 000 € tickets
- 5 000 € - 10 000 € merchandise
- Expenses: 52 000 €
 - Derived from Frankfurt budget and increased a bit, but some things were much higher
 - Busses: 500 € → 8 000 €
 - Referee payments: 1 000 € → 4 000 €
 - Fields: 8 000 €, there was a lot of back and forth around this.
 - Merch: 8 000 € (includes wristbands, lanyards, staff shirts, ...)
 - Logistics:
 - 600 € gazebos
 - 1 000 € for QE equipment transport
 - Housing: 4 700 € for IQA volunteer housing
 - Executive and committee travel: 4800 €
 - Volunteer food and travel: 2 700 €
 - Security:
 - For opening ceremony: 2 000 €
 - For event itself: 3 500 €
- Q&A:
 - What is the relationship between Uganda, Trustee Travel and the WC Finance?
 - There are separate, Uganda and Trustee Travel expenses did not influence player fees etc.
 - Why were the costs not set in stone early on before they suddenly rose?
 - Patronage was given to AIQ, not the IQA. HC wanted to deal with the Italians rather than the IQA and they felt they were faithful to their client.
 - When we wanted to sign the contract, HC wanted to have an incorporated entity to deal with which is why the IQA Events Ltd was founded which delayed everything and then there was a lot of back and forth while costs were already going up.
 - It would have been better to publish the budget estimations together with the fee announcements to justify the higher fees with good reasons.
 - It might be a good idea not to work together with corporate companies because we had several bad experiences with it now.
 - Was the Italian history with international quidditch events considered (Sarteano, Gallipoli, Florence).
 - Yes, but probably not with a high enough focus.
 - It seems like having global press coverage was a higher priority than a good experience for players and volunteers, and it should be the other way round.

Strategic Planning

The delegates present discussed the long-term future of the sport, including SWOT analysis of various aspects.

Branding

- SWOT analysis about the name quidditch.
 - TODO: Get key takeaways from Luke's notes.
- Idea: Prepare contingency plans
 - Plans in case we decide that we have reached a point where HP affiliation hurts us more than it helps us.
 - US takes the lead, develops contingency plans.
 - Congress members then collaborate to comment about any things that are specific to their NGB or jurisdiction.
 - While US develops the contingency plans, Congress has a discussion about potential names
 - Branding Committee works on decision process regarding choosing a potential name
 - Plan regarding the trigger decision process needs to be developed (when/upon what event will cause the contingency plan)
 - TODO: Plan how to deal with the profit oriented quidditch organisations
 - Include in conversation but not in decision process

Rebecca's notes (after lunch break)

Quidditch Europe = European Quidditch Federation

Notes following lunch break

Incorporation

- Will not incorporate in Texas despite fees; happy to get into the US to be incorporated (if in US will probs be Delaware)
- US allows to copy USQ — many International Sports Organisations are incorporated in Switzerland but we'll investigate US
- Cannot move countries once incorporated

- World Flying Disk Federation in US; Switzerland has tax brackets; easy to change status of org., nonprofit
- US and Switzerland have similar restrictions on trading
- knowledge that's a benefit is mostly for starting incorporation
- concern re: US neutrality and policies
- will be moving bank; concerns from members due to use of paypal for large fees etc — need bank that has better international banking
- 501c-3 restricts political activity but allows unlimited advocacy; Sarah is happy to help
- Significant activity — came up with criteria and what we wanted
 - primarily english speaking
 - significant quidditch presence to rely on NGB resources and not reinvent the wheel
 - relatively small list given top two criteria; investigated all those places
 - many places had residency requirements
 - determined a few places acceptable, picked US to make a decision and move forward
- action line: do we incorporate in US or elsewhere
- members want a vote — exceptional meeting to vote?
- consensus at table but need to give other NGB's the chance to say yes
- AUS; US; SWI; AUT; UK; CAN; BEL; NL consensus
- Email to be sent out in next 2-3 days

IQA Core Business

- Communications
 - internal; external; with NGBs
 - facilitate communication between NGB's to facilitate development from big NGBs to small NGBs
 - welcome package
 - Slack
 - resource library
 - buddy system
- Rulebook
- WC
 - focus on this tournament
- Continental Games
 - email countries involved within regions to get feedback on feasibility of events
- Incorporation

Action Points Re: World Cup

- make statement soon on WC and information under review
- bid packages to have addendum; potentially delayed date

IQA Structure moving forward

- Proposals
 - 2+ ED's
 - Concerns: need a clear leader to represent the organization/be a visionary leader; somebody to manage staff; somebody to administrate — don't care how that happens but fill those roles
 - Concern: know who is in charge
 - ED gets a vote on the board
 - concerns re: structure and how it'll affect relationships
 - Suggestion: come up with a list of functions and outsource to members as possible so we can build goodwill and get things done better before bringing in long term volunteers to avoid burning out long term volunteers
- SportAccord
 - Discussion of things discussed during Board Meeting on Friday