



INTERNATIONAL SKI INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION  
INTERNATIONALER SKILEHRERVERBAND  
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES MONITEURS DE SKI

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# Minutes

## Meeting of the Executive Committee 01/2015

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Pec pod Sněžkou, Czech Republic

Hotel Horizon



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## **Present**

<b>President:</b>	Riet Campell
<b>Vice president Europe:</b>	Vittorio Caffi
<b>Vice president Pacific Area:</b>	Yuichi Mabuchi
<b>Interpreter:</b>	Eiichi Kodama
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jiri Kotaska
<b>Advisor:</b>	Valentin Kiedaisch
<b>Advisor:</b>	Dave Renouf
<b>General Secretary:</b>	Hugo Reider

## **Apologies:**

<b>Vice president America:</b>	Martin Bacer
<b>Absent:</b>	
<b>Advisor:</b>	Gilles Chabert
<b>Advisor:</b>	Richard Walter

The Meeting commenced on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 8 a.m., at the Seminar Room of Hotel Horizon, Pec pod Sněžkou, Czech Republic.

## Regarding the AGENDA of the meeting:

The Agenda had been sent to all the members of the Executive Committee. As there were no requests for addenda or changes, the agenda was considered adopted.

### **1. Welcome**

The President greeted the Members of the Executive Committee that were present and thanked them for their attendance. Special thanks were addressed to Jiri Kotaska, Apul, the President Libor Knot, as well as his spouse Ludmila, for the organisation of the event. The President commented that it has been no easy task assembling this event. Approximately 30 runners were enrolled in the ISIA Test. The President expressed his disappointment that so few member associations from Eastern Europe have attended.

### **2. Reports of the President, the Vice-president and the Members of the Executive Committee**

#### **2.1 Report of the President**

The President reported that in Switzerland also, ruminations are being heard



querying why we do not participate in the Eurotest. There is a quarter of thought that believes it may have its advantages.

At the moment, discussions are starting again in Europe. The President has held discussions with the DSLV (German Ski Instructors Association), the General Secretary, and also with France.

However, it is incumbent upon countries themselves to take both requisite and timely action, and participate actively if they wish their voice to be heard.

During the discussion that took place in France between the SNMSF and representatives of Swiss Snowsports, Gilles Chabert did, amongst other things, communicate that the SNMSF has unanimously decided to leave the ISIA. Additionally, we have also been informed that the SNMSF will not be participating in the Interski in Argentina.

In Italy, there has been an emergency meeting of the AMSI Committee with an agenda entitled "Withdrawal from the ISIA". However, a majority to enact a decision has failed to be reached.

We should, of course, consider any potential impact on the ISIA, which must, in turn, promote issues surrounding the budget.

We must remember that, at its core, our work focuses on the Ski Instructor, and not the ISIA, the FEMPS or Europe.

Let us consider, as an example, winter tourism in Switzerland. First, there was not any snow for a long time, then the Swiss Franc was re-valued (upward), which means that suddenly, everything became 20% more expensive for foreign visitors. It is going to be very difficult to carry on working successfully, and the Ski Instructors are not going to have it very easy, either.

## **2.2 Report of the Vice-President Europe**

Vittorio Caffi: There have been discussions with many countries, a majority of which remain supportive of the ISIA Minimum Standard and continue to be committed to the decisions taken, by themselves, in Isola in 2008. However, the time has come for each member association to step forward and effectively engage its positions.

As far as the announced withdrawals are concerned, it must be made clear that we, the ISIA, are an association, and that each member is free to participate or to leave. Naturally, it is a shame if certain countries do not wish to participate any longer and believe that it is better to leave than to carry on a constructive dialogue.

## **2.3 Report of the Vice-President Pacific**

In Japan, the current season is running well. There is a lot of snow. In November, the General Assembly of the SIA took place where Mabuchi was confirmed President. He has heard that France wants to withdraw from the ISIA, but he is of the opinion that the ISIA is a world association, a community of like-minded people, whose remit is to work and fight on behalf of Ski Instructors, and not simply to promote the ideas of two or three member countries, which all the others should then follow. There are democratic voting procedures which must be respected and if one does not accept them, one should be prepared to leave.



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President Campell took the opportunity to welcome back Dave Renouf to the Executive Committee. Everybody is happy that David is back, since all the members of the Executive Committee have been concerned about him.

### **3. ISIA Workshop January 2015**

The President expressed his happiness for both the event and the test that is taking place. The President encouraged all Member Associations to recognise the difficulties and demands of conducting such an event. It is lengthy, complicated and onerous, in addition to the general concern that the entire profession is under threat.

It is now important that representatives of a sufficient number of associations go to the Brussels meeting and express their opinion there.

### **4. ISIA Database (update)– ISIA Card (update) 2014/15 – Programme of the ISIA Test & Inspections**

In Flumserberg, the Executive Committee decided to activate and put on line the ISIA Database. Mario Fabretto, who was invited to the meeting, sent his regrets as he was unable to reschedule prior commitments. Vittorio Caffi will make the presentation in his stead.

Currently, 24 National Associations have been entered into the Database, totaling 25 000 ski instructors. Further details concerning this will be communicated during the workshop scheduled on this afternoon. The Database is now on line. The next step will be the transfer of the administration to the National Associations.

*(Please see objections of Dave Renouf to this point of the minutes in footnotes!)*

#### **Decision 1-1/15**

The General Secretary will prepare a circular in which the activation of the Database will be communicated. It will be addressed to member associations, regional associations and ski schools, as well as ski lift operators and local authorities.

### **5. Interski Congress 2015 – Report**

### **6. ISIA Competition – Interski 2015**

Justo Olivieri will provide more information about this in the afternoon. It is incumbent upon us to promote invitations to both our meetings and events and in that spirit, we are pleased to note the kind acceptance and presence today of Interski President Erich Melmer and Interski Vice-president Katalin Egri.

It is the first time in the history of the Interski that the ISIA will appear with this amount of delegates. We want to show the importance of the ISIA.

The event is comprised of a Ladies' Giant Slalom and a Men's Giant Sla-



lom (Single Competition). The title to be awarded to the winners is still to be discussed. There will also be a competition amongst countries. Everybody present at the Interski will be allowed to participate. It is currently being discussed as to whether there will be rules regarding ski attire and ski shape and how the awarded title shall be named.

### **Decision 2-1/15**

The following titles are being conferred: Single Competition Men and Ladies: "INTERSKI Champion"; Competition amongst countries: „INTERSKI Champion Parallel Team Event“.

Regarding the race, there will be no rules regulating ski shape or attire; the team competition shall be run using the Demo Team attire.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am in order to accommodate the ISIA Event.  
Meeting resumed: 5 pm.

## **7. BASI –reply to our request**

According to the decision of the last Executive Committee Meeting, the ISIA President and General Secretary requested an explanation from the BASI regarding certain points, as there have been several complaints about the training of the BASI. Additionally, the recent case concerning Simon Butler created something of a stir.

BASI President Robert Gareth has indeed issued a reply. However, its content was more of an attack on the Executive Committee itself than a reply to our query. In his reply, it was made clear that the BASI did not consider the matter to be germane to the ISIA.

The ISIA could now reply in turn and stretch the matter into infinity, or try to solve the problem in person.

Dave Renouf expressed his willingness to attempt this type of mediation.

Regarding Simon Butler: In the meantime, the answers to all the questions have been put on the BASI website.

Regarding the question whether there have been other ski instructors in the situation of Simon Butler: the answer is „yes“, as the list was not accurate.

In 2006, it was made possible, for BASI III instructors, to obtain the ISTD. Only the people who, during a specific time frame, made an explicit request to receive the MoU sticker as well, have received it. Simon Butler and some others never submitted such request. Within the first year, everybody owning an ISTD was incorrectly sent the MoU sticker. Later on this mistake was rectified.

The 33 BASI snowboard instructors, whose diploma has, through the Satolas Agreement, been recognized as being equivalent to the Ski Instructor one in France, have the ISTD. They have received versatile training and followed the corresponding additional courses. They have received the MoU Sticker.



### **Decision 3-1/15**

The Executive Committee is satisfied with these explanations. A letter will be written to the president of the BASI, Robert Gareth, which acknowledges receipt of his letter and explains that the case has been discussed with Dave Renouf within the Executive Committee and that the ISIA considers the matter closed.

*(Please see objections of Dave Renouf to this point of the minutes in footnotes!)*

### **8. Europe: MoU – extension for an additional year**

All information regarding this point of agenda will be presented, later on during the Meeting, by Mr Jens Gaster from the EU Commission, who has graciously accepted the invitation of the ISIA to participate in the Event.

### **9. Meeting Dates**

A request was submitted by Martin Bacer to hold the next Executive Committee Meeting in May in Budapest.

### **Decision 4-1/15**

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held in Budapest on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Arrival May 9<sup>th</sup> and Departure May 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Other dates:**

September 5-12, 2015, INTERSKI Ushuaia  
- Executive Committee Meeting  
- Delegates Assembly  
- ISIA Event: INTERSKI Champion

### **10. Various**

As there were no more requests to speak and there was nothing more to be added, the President adjourned the Meeting at 6:15 pm.

**The Secretary**  
Hugo Reider, General Secretary

**The President**  
Riet R. Campell

**Objections of Dave Renouf, apported to items 4 and 7 of the minutes:**



With regard to the minutes from the Czech Republic, when referring to my notes from the meeting;

Item 4

I had not understood that there would be a communication to all associations about the data base. Furthermore, we do not have a record of that communication coming to our offices.

Item 7

There are a number of either mistakes or misunderstandings.

These are my notes:

DR expressed the letter of reply was in response to the minutes of Flumserberg where there were attacks on BASI –VC expressed that he did not see it the same way.

VC stated that the ISIA email 7 Nov 14 was directed to gain understanding of what happening within BASI, as UK representative of ISIA, and how ISIA might be able to help to clarify to other ISIA members what's going on.

DR read out the statement that is on BASI website regarding non-member. *i.e. Simon Butler*  
RC and HR expressed futility of replying point by point to BASI letter, but to “let water under the bridge” and write back to express appreciation of support offered with DR's return.

Again I would please ask for change and remove the following but replace with “DR will report this back to BASI”

Dave Renouf expressed his willingness to attempt this type of mediation.

It is my understanding that I would (and have) report this to BASI – not that I would try to mediate- as this is not within my remit in BASI.

There is an inaccuracy in the following:

In 2006, it was made possible, for BASI III instructors, to obtain the ISTD.

This was not made possible for BASI III but only for BASI Grade 1s if they had completed the BASI Mountain Safety modules successfully.

For further explanation; These Grade 1s people who were then given their ISTD qualification in 2006, were automatically on the list to gain the MoU Sticker in 2012. This was an administrative error by BASI as these Grade 1s had not completed the Eurotest. All those who had been incorrectly issued the MoU sticker were informed of the mistake (and have not since been issued with another MoU sticker by BASI).

Other Grade 1s, who had been issued the MoU sticker, were already registered as equivalent in other European countries during a limited time period (window of opportunity). Thus they had the right to be issued the MoU sticker as per the criteria within the agreement.

I hope this information/clarification is helpful, and that the minutes can please be adjusted/amended to reflect this information that I give.