

European Underwater Federation

Minutes of the EUF meeting, Helsinki, 16/06/12

Delegates

Matti Anttila	MA	FDf
Mark Caney	MC	PADI EMEA
Martin Denison	MD	RSTC
Deric Ellerby	DE	BSAC
John Geurts	JG	NOB
Lasse Gustafsson	LG	SSDF
Michael Hansen	MH	DSF
Gunnar Jarvholm	GJ	SSDF
Marko Kauppinen	MK	FDf
Wolfgang Mehl	WM	FIAS
Oliver Mielke	OM	RSTC
Sari Nuotio	SN	FDf
Mika Rautianen	MR	FDf
Jesper Rislov	JR	DSF
Steffen Scholz	SS	VDST
Trond Skaare	TS	PADI EMEA
Mary Tetley	MT	BSAC

Associates

Alexander Belskyi	AB	NDL Russia
Liubov Erskova	LE	NDL Russia
Klaus Krützfeld	KK	Actinia
Flemming Thyge	FT	DDI
Daniel Zuidema	DZ	DDI

Observers

Kimmo Lahtinen	KL	AIDA International
Raivo Kask	RK	NDL Estonia
Tago Moldau	YM	NDL Estonia

Apologies

Zeyad M El Bassel	ZE	CDWS Egypt
Yuri Belskyi	YB	NDL Russia
Jean-Louis Blanchard	JB	CMAS EU
Gerd Brüheim	GB	PDA
Pascal Dietrich	PD	PADI EMEA
Evelin Dworak	ED	TSVO
Peter Jonas	PJ	AS+/EUF Cert
Jack Lavanchy	JL	RSTC
Dick Lukas	DL	NAUI EU
Richard Lukas	DL	NAUI EU
Don McGlinchey	DM	Actinia
Fred Siebers	FS	WOSD/IAHD
Guido Watzig	GW	SSI EMEA

Minutes

1. The President welcomed delegates.
2. **Previous minutes** – approved with no corrections or matters arising.
3. **President's report** – MC explained briefly that the Spanish situation was still far from being resolved. Otherwise reported a relatively quiet period since the last meeting, a sign that no other major new problems had arisen. He stressed the negative effects on diving of the current financial situation and expressed his belief that particularly in such times EUF provided vital contact and communications. This value lay as much in the informal communications such meetings offered as in the formal agenda.
4. **RSTC EU** – OM passed on best wishes to all from JL. The RSTC meeting at the EUDI show was mainly occupied by discussions on the Spanish situation. OM was elected President of RSTC, after many years of service by P. Pulver. GW (SSI) is now RSTC Secretary. RSTC has been working with some success in resolving some regional issues in Italy. There have been some issues with Swiss tourists learning to dive overseas and subsequently being involved in accidents when diving in home lakes. This could result in adverse legislation.
5. **CMAS EU** – In the absence of JB and no written report, CMAS EU members informed their planned meeting had been put back until November. VDST was working on changes to the CMAS Statutes with meetings planned for November/December.
6. **Finance / membership** – MD presented a healthy balance, supported by bank statements. CDWS's existence was still very fluid and it was decided their unpaid membership should be downgraded to correspondence. CMAS EU and PDSA Malta payments remain outstanding and reminders would be sent. DE reported accounts filing at Companies was imminent. MC requested assistance on completing the EUF brochure update to include the new ISO standards. Volunteers were sought to proof the English version (DE/MD) and subsequently provide translations into other languages (German, Italian, Dutch, Finnish, Danish, Swedish, Spanish, Russian, Estonian - all). This will be published on our website in phases as each is completed. Members would be free to re-publish on their websites or produce printed copies, a verification link or copy should be sent to EUF.
7. **EUF Certification International**. With CDWS no longer active there are reports of local standards slipping. Centres are now asking that certification be re-introduced! The Hellenic, NAUI and IANTD certifications have expired. Gas Blending L1 and L2 standards are processed by ISO. EN250 revision is still hung up on the regulator sharing depth/temperature issue with a north/south divide.
8. **EUF Website** – MC reported stability problems with the current hosting of the site and DE reported he had successfully completed the transfer of the domain name from DZ. It is now planned we will transfer the site to our new server and VDST were thanked for their long support.

9. **Membership** – DE reported an enquiry from NDL – Nord, Estonia for full membership. This will be proceeded with and submitted to profit distributing members for recommendation. Members are asked to note that the next meeting is an elective one. The structure of the next Board will be non profit offering President, CMAS EU and 1 Board position, profit offering RSTC EU and 2 Board positions.
10. **Spanish certification recognition** – MC provided an update from PD – see annex.
11. **Presentation** – KL gave a presentation on AIDA International.
12. **AOB** – Following a variety of discussions MC gave a brief summary of the Florida Re-breather Forum 3 meeting, referenced www.RF30.org.
13. **Next meeting** – with no details offered on the possible Spanish venue it was agreed to hold the next meeting in Vienna, hosted by AS+Cert. The agreed date of 01/12/12 will be maintained. The following meeting is planned for Tallinn, Estonia, 15/06/13, hosted by NDL Nord.
14. **MA, SN and the FDF** were formally thanked for both organising and providing hospitality for the meeting.

Annex

Report from PD on Spanish situation

Current situation is that several law drafts are in the pipeline for publishing in 4 autonomous regions:

- Catalonia
- Balears
- Murcia
- Valencia

Next one in the pipeline is Andalucia, Canary Islands.

Still open is Galicia where there are discussions on what the next steps are and should be.

Goal for ABRE and the PADI EMEA Political Advisor is that they achieve to pass new law drafts/text in July. The idea is that the qualification could also work with another title. ABRE submitted a new curriculum that is based on the elements coming from ISO standards. If that would pass in the 4 regions than there is probably good chances to leverage that with other communities. This is in progress, but obviously that is not sure yet.

The Spanish Tourism Board is working on a study/file that will show the economic impact of the diving tourism in Spain. That should allow us to get better leverage. ABRE (Jose Luis) is working there with Luis Comenge (as President of the National Dive Centre federation) to support the creation of this file. The hope is that this will provide an excellent and impressive tool to lobby and find support for our line of argumentation.

The elections obviously brought quite a bit of change, so therefore some contacts are necessary to reestablish and rework on some elements.

The contencioso (claim against the national state law) is still in the pipeline and so far there were no news/updates on that front. That will certainly be a longer process.