

# ***European Underwater Federation***

## **Minutes of the EUF meeting, Tallinn, 15/06/13**

### **Delegates**

Mark Caney	MC	PADI EMEA
Martin Denison	MD	RSTC
Deric Ellerby	DE	BSAC
Michael Frenzel	MF	CMAS EU
John Geurts	JG	NOB
Teppo Lallukka	TL	FDF
Wolfgang Mehl	WM	FIAS
Oliver Mielke	OM	RSTC
Tago Moldau	TM	NDL Nord
Sari Nuotio	SN	FDF
Jesper Rislov	JR	DSF
Jean Rondia	JRa	LIFRAS
Steffen Scholz	SS	VDST
Trond Skaare	TS	PADI EMEA
Mary Tetley	MT	BSAC
Mike Orth	MO	CFT

### **Associates**

Alexandre Belskyi	AB	NDL Russia
Yuri Belskyi	YB	NDL Russia
Liubov Erskova	LE	NDL Russia
Boaz Mayzel	BM	TIDF
Flemming Thyge	FT	DDI

### **Observers**

Peter Jonas	PJ	AS+/EUF Cert
Sylvia Hess	SH	guest speaker

### **Apologies**

Gerd Brüheim	GB	PDA
Pascal Dietrich	PD	PADI EMEA
Zeyad M El Bassel	ZE	CDWS Egypt
Lasse Gustafsson	LG	SSDF
Klaus Krützfeld	KK	Actinia
Kimmo Lahtinen	KL	ADA International
Jack Lavanchy	JL	RSTC
Don McGlinchey	DM	Actinia
Gerard Oijnhausen	GO	WOSD/IAHD
Fred Siebers	FS	WOSD/IAHD
Guy Thomas	GT	DAN EU
Per Vangsoy	PV	NDF
Guido Wätzig	GW	SSI EU
Daniel Zuidema	DZ	DDI

## Minutes

1. The President welcomed delegates.
2. **Previous minutes** – approved with no corrections or matters arising not covered on the meeting agenda.
3. **President's report** – WM reported on his attendance at German and Italian dive shows where he had worked to try and enhance knowledge and understanding of EUF. He believes we must all do everything possible to enhance and promote our image.
4. **RSTC EU** – OM gave an extensive report on RSTC's work with ARBRE in trying to find solutions to the problems resulting from Spanish diving legislation. This has now developed with significant regional variations making negotiations even more complex and expensive, RSTC having already expended some 10k€ in legal fees.

RSTC EU has welcomed 2 new members and has another 4 applications in the pipeline. A new brochure with updated market trend data has proved useful evidence in Spanish discussions. OM also commented on problems RSTC is encountering on abusive logo use by non-members.

5. **CMAS EU** – MF explained he has taken over as official CMAS EU contact with EUF and made a detailed report on developments. New statutes had been adopted but had not as yet made any changes. An imminent Board meeting is arranged to plan for a Marseille GA in October. MF is optimistic that the new CMAS Board has a more open and constructive approach and hopes for a more positive relationship with EUF. The CMAS GA in the Philippines was a friendly affair and the new Board has a more modern and forward thinking attitude.
6. **Finance / membership** – MD reported a healthy financial situation with the maturation of a long term savings placement.
7. **EUF Certification International** – PJ announced that 5 revised ISO's were now in the final voting stage. Our tourism standards group has 12 ISO's, 11 of which are from the diving working group. Global Underwater Explorers have gained certification, FEBRAS are in the process of renewing but NOB certification will expire. In order to reduce re-certification costs it was proposed that whilst new certifications will continue to use two auditors, simple renewals may be reduced to a single auditor. Approved nemcon.
8. **EUF Website** – JG, WM, BM and JR agreed to provide Dutch, Italian, Hebrew and Danish translations of the EUF brochure for DE to upload to the website.
9. **Membership** – DE reported that Belgium had renewed its EUF membership.
10. **Spanish certification recognition** – Following the earlier RSTC report on the current situation a request was made that EUF act on its 2010 decision to offer financial support. This decision had authorised Pascal Dietrich and the General Secretary to become directly involved as they thought appropriate in supporting

RSTC and ARBRE in negotiations with the Spanish authorities. This decision was further ratified by the EUF Executive Board. After considerable discussion it was decided we should honour our offer of a credit line of 5k€, subject to proper accounting procedures.

11. **EU diving law/regulation** – Sylvia Hess made a presentation based on her studies of EU service directives concerned with consumer protection. In particular areas covering rules for risk sports and due diligence implications. Subsequent debate covered possible ISO consequences, comparisons with other risk activities such as skiing and degrees of responsibility occurred by dive leaders, instructors, dive service providers and training organisations.
12. **AOB** – no items not covered by the agenda.
13. **Next meeting** – it was agreed the next meeting will be held 30/11/13 in Vienna and will again be hosted by AS+. The following meeting is planned for 14/06/14 in Frankfurt to be hosted by VDST.
14. **NDL Nord and NDL** were formally thanked for both organising and providing hospitality for the meeting.