



INTERNATIONAL  
MASTERS GAMES  
ASSOCIATION

## **IMGA Annual General Meeting**

Date: Monday 15 November 2021

Time: 09h00-11h45

Location: Zoom and LUMI (virtual)

## **IMGA Annual General Meeting**

**Virtual**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of November, 2021**

*Revised minutes 17.01.2022*

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#### **IMGA Board in attendance:**

- Acting president: Sergey Bubka
- Board members: Kate Caithness, Marisol Casado, Denis Oswald, David Eades, Robert Elphinston, Poul-Erik Hoeyer, Jose Perurena, Jens Holm

**Apologies:** John Coates

#### **From the Administration:**

CEO - Jens Holm  
Director of Sport - Samantha Hayward

### **1. Opening of the session**

The acting president Sergey Bubka welcomed the members and mentioned it was an important day for the IMGA.

**Decision:** No comments were made to the agenda

#### **Declaration of interests**

No declaration of interests.

### **2. Identification of delegates and confirmation of their authority**

The acting president introduced LUMI who informed which voting delegates were present: Badminton World Federation (BWF), Fédération International de Basketball (FIBA), International Biathlon Union (IBU), International Canoe Federation (ICF), International Golf Federation (IGF), International Orienteering Federation (IOF), International Tennis Federation (ITF), International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), World Baseball and Softball Confederation (WBSC), World Curling Federation (WCF), World Archery (WA), World Athletics (WA), World Rowing (WR), World Triathlon (WT), World Squash Federation (WSF)

In addition to the voting delegates, the following members and associate members were present: International Skating Union (ISU), International Life Saving Federation (ILS), World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF), World Dance Sport Federation (WDSF), International Floorball Federation (IFF)

**Commenté [SH1]:** The full name of the members has been displayed rather than just the abbreviation.

### **3. Appointment of Scrutineers**

LUMI is the scrutineer.

#### **4.a Approval of the revised minutes from the General Assembly 2019**

The acting president said the IMGA administration had received no comments to the minutes sent on May 20<sup>th</sup>. (p. 6 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021)  
The vote was opened by LUMI.

**Decision:** The minutes were approved with 100% of the valid votes (8).

#### **4.b Approval of the minutes from the last General Assembly 2020**

The acting president said the IMGA administration had received no comments to the minutes sent on May 20<sup>th</sup>. (p. 12 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021)

Jean-Christophe Rolland (JCR) from World Rowing said he hadn't sent remarks at the time but still wanted to make a minor one for clarification and to avoid misinterpretation: he would like to clarify on page 3 of the 2020 AGM minutes, that it was related to the 2018 accounts, as explicitly mentioned in WR's letter. Same for his comment on page 8, he would like the minutes to refer to the General Assembly 2019 where the 2018 accounts were only presented on the screen.

The vote was opened by LUMI.

**Decision:** The minutes sent to the members in the workbook were approved with 100% of the valid votes (9).



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## 5. President's report

The acting president started his report by saying that the past year had been different as the global pandemic continues to affect the world of sport and tourism. But the IMGA didn't stay inactive. The new anti-doping code has been adopted in collaboration with the ITA and a governance working group was established.

The IMGA board met regularly and both a steering committee and a remuneration committee were established since the board is committed to implement the suggested changes from the governance working group and proceed with annual reviews by ITrustSport.

He emphasized the importance of the changes to the current constitution and insisted it was only a first step in a continuous governance review.

He thanked Kai Holm, who resigned as president after 27 years for establishing Master sport on an international level and recognized the tremendous work he has done in taking the organisation to where it is today.

He informed the members that two new host cities had been announced in 2021: the city of Cleveland, Ohio located on the great lakes who will host the 2024 Pan-American Masters games and the region of Lombardia, who will host the Winter World Masters Games in 2024.

He ended his report by explaining that sustainability has always been at the core of IMGA's profile as all events are built around the 3 P's of Sustainability: People, Planet and Prosperity. Therefore, there will be a further focus on sustainability in the years to come.

Communication is essential in times of uncertainty and in the past year the IMGA has significantly increased our social media activity to keep the international masters community alive in partnership with our host cities.

### Questions:

JCR asked why, for clarity and transparency, the IMGA board had decided not to present the full report of the Governance Working Group to the members.

The acting president said he would look into it and if there is a need rise this question at the next board meeting.

Tom Hollowell (IOF), seconded the request made by JCR that in the interest of transparency the full report of the Governance Working Group should be sent to all members to give additional credibility.

## 6. Steering Committee's report

Alex McLin presented the steering committee's report to the members. (p. 28 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021) and explained that for the remuneration committee to begin its work, a legal opinion needed to be obtained to look into key contracts, including the one of the CEO and former president and the impact on the association's liabilities. It took time to gather all relevant materials for the outside council's review, but it is now in process.

### Questions:

Zena Wooldridge from World Squash asked if there was a proposal to publish timescales to the implementation of the recommendations.

The GWG had suggested which recommendations were critical, high priority and lower priority. The IMGA board feels some of the priority levels need adjustments and this will guide the steering committee to establish a timeline.

Antti Pihlakoski (AP) from World Athletics thanked the IMGA for taking the first good steps in terms of good governance and insisted it shouldn't be the only ones.

JCR asked how the steering committee would report to the members before the next General Assembly, so the members are updated on the evolution of the Committee and different working groups.

It is a recommendation of the GWG that more regular updates are provided to the members so it is linked to the recommendations and therefore regular updates will be provided by the steering committee.

## 7. a. Approval of the accounts 2019

The acting president said the IMGA administration had received no comments to the accounts (p. 42 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021) sent on May 20<sup>th</sup>.



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The vote was opened by LUMI.

**Decision:** the accounts were approved with 100% of the valid votes (8).

### 7. b. Approval of the accounts 2020

The acting president said the IMGA administration had received no comments to the accounts (p. 58 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021) sent on September 15<sup>th</sup>.  
The vote was opened by LUMI.

**Decision:** the accounts were approved with 100% of the valid votes (8).

### 8. Report on applications for affiliation and voting

The acting president gave the floor to the IPF who made a short presentation to the members. (p. 75 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021)

#### Questions:

AP asked about doping controls for masters. They are doping controls on all levels and records are tested at the events. The IPF is working with CCES (Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport) an independent agency similar to the ITA and they have the full control during the events.

**Commenté [SH2]:** The name of CCES has been modified to match the correct one.

**Decision:** the IPF was accepted as an associate member with no voting rights with 85,7 % of the valid votes (7).

The President thanked the acting president and the members and informed them that they will keep on working to ensure they fulfill the requirements as a member. Masters have always been treated equally as they are the roots of their sport.

### 9. Alterations to Constitution

Alex McLin (AM) presented and commented the proposed changes to the Constitution. (p. 93 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021)

#### Questions:

JCR raised a question related to article 28 majorities and 33 decisions, where it is mentioned that decisions should be taken on the basis of a simple majority. He explained that for him, based on what World Rowing is doing, it should be absolute majority because simple majority is relative majority and normally when it comes to decisions it should be absolute majority.

Matt Smith (World Rowing), gave an example: if they are 3 candidates and its simple majority, the ones that gets the most votes under simple majority wins. And then the language doesn't make sense to go to another round with simple majority in there. So, for elections it should be absolute majority in order for that sentence to make sense.

Denis Oswald said that in a system where the abstentions and void votes are not taken into account, relative or absolute majority doesn't make a difference.

JCR answered that depending on whether there are two or more candidates, it's not the same.

AM clarified, that the changes adopted during the 2021 General Assembly are a first step and for these articles the language wasn't clear, so a clarification of the current process was proposed.

When the Constitution is completely reviewed, the comments and suggestions from World Rowing will be taken into consideration.

**Decision:** the changes to the IMGA Constitution were approved with 100% of the valid votes (12).

### 10. Elections for casual vacancies

The acting president shortly presented the two candidates: Sari Essayah and Ng Ser Miang (p. 112 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021).

No questions were raised.

#### Decision:

- Sari Essayah was elected with 100% of the valid votes (10).
- Ng Ser Miang was elected with 100% of the valid votes (12).



## 11. Host Cities Report

The acting president introduced the host cities and opened the floor for their progress reports.

### WMG 2021

The Organising Committee of the WMG 2021 explained to the members why they had asked for a postponement of the Games to the IMGA Board.

The acting president added that the IMGA Board had decided to put together a working group to discuss new potential dates with Kansai.

It is noted that the working group will look at dates of other masters events when discussing with WMG 2021 to avoid a clash with other masters events and IFs masters championships.

Tom Dielen (World Archery) wrote via comments that it would be necessary to have a clear look at the financial impact on the budget. The CEO answered there was none since WMG 2021 has already paid all their rights fees.

### APMG 2023

The Organising Committee of the APMG 2023 in Jeollbuk-do presented their progress report to the members. (p. 115 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021).

No questions were asked.

### WMG 2025

The Organising Committee of the WMG 2025 in Tapei City & New Taipei City presented their progress report to the members. (p. 153 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021).

No questions were asked.

### WWMG 2024

The Organising Committee of the WWMG 2024 in Lombardia presented their progress report to the members. (p. 178 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021).

No questions were asked.

### EMG 2023

The Organising Committee of the EMG 2023 in Tampere presented their progress report to the members. (p. 189 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021).

No questions were asked.

### PANAMG 2020

The acting president explained that the IMGA board had granted the organising Committee until the end of the year to find the financial guarantees and confirm the venues.

No questions were asked.

### PANAMG 2024

The Organising Committee of the PANAMG 2024 in Cleveland presented their progress report to the members. (p. 205 of the workbook shared on 12.11.2021).

No questions were asked.

## 12. Any other business

No other business was mentioned.

## 13. Place and date of the next General Assembly

The members will be informed about the date and location of the next general assembly in due time.

## Closing remarks from the President

The acting president closed the meeting by thanking everybody for their participation.