

12TH I.M.A.F.D. CONGRESS – 20th May 2004, were held at Izamilovo Hotel in Moscow, Russia

1. WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTES :

Honorary organizer, Valery Rukhledev (Rus) and I.M.A.F.D. President, Eduardo Dominguez (Arg) opened the 12th session of I.M.A.F.D. congress at 9:30 by extending a warm welcome. They then called on Mr. Nikolay Klimov, President of Russian Committee of Deaf Sports (R.C.D.S.), to officially open the 12th congress. Klimov gave a warm proud welcome to everyone and expressed happiness to host the World Martial Arts Championships for the first time in Moscow.

R.C.D.S. invited as an observer Mr. Wiener Kliever (Ger), sport coordinator and treasurer of E.D.S.O. (European Deaf Sports Organization), meanwhile executive members of C.I.S.S. were not able to participate in this event.

2. ROLL CALL

It was announced that there are delegates from 14 countries (Argentina, Austria, Chinese Taipei, France, Greece, Israel, Japan, Korea, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine). On the other hand 19 countries were missing (Algeria, Brasil, Cuba, Germany, Great Britain, Guinea, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, Moldova, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Sierra leone, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Uruguay, U.S.A. and Venezuela). They withdrew for financial or other reasons and many countries shared its frustrations about their national federations not helping athletes in non-olympic sports.

3. WELCOME REMARKS FROM THE MOSCOW ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Valery Rukhledev extended a warm welcome and wished us good luck that future deaflympic competitions will have new disciplines like Judo and Karate .

At this point, I.M.A.F.D. President, Eduardo Dominguez (Arg) officially opened the 12th Congress with discussions of this future project among all delegates and distinguished visitors.

He invited Mr. Francesco Faraone (Italy), I.M.A.F.D. technical coordinator of this World Championship, to come forward and explain about the organization.

Mr. Francesco Faraone announced to the member countries that Secretary General, Dr. Frank Lala (U.S.A.) not was present for personal reason therefore Faraone assumed the role of responsibility for the congress and throughout the world championships.

C.I.S.S. has provided authorization to R.C.D.S. only to invite Mr. Francesco Faraone meanwhile Italy's national team was suspended because the actual situation in Italy has two different national deaf sports organizations which is in conflict with C.I.S.S. regulations.

4. QUESTIONS REGARDING I.M.A.F.D. AND C.I.S.S. MEMBERSHIPS

Francesco Faraone, Treasuer of I.M.A.F.D. advised that there were questions regarding several National Associations of Sports for the deaf and the other executive steps to arrange or propose meetings for a prolonged discussion in following are :

A) Clarification about doubts of payment among 2 different organizations, IMAFD and RCDS, regarding payment of 250 USD for the World Championship fee.

A concern, IMAFD became a C.I.S.S. associate member after approval voting during 37th Congress in Davos, Switzerland 1999 and in following it must pay 200 USD every year.

B) There are much problems with other sports that don't have to pay C.I.S.S. but yet participate in the Deaflympics while martial arts have not yet made it?

C) IMAFD decides to propose that CISS regulations be modified for recognition of each sport discipline after their World Championships have successfully been hosted with 5 or more participating countries from 3 or more continents in order to become official sport discipline for Deaflympic Games.

Why didn't they enter martial arts demo during Deaflympic 2001 and make bureaucratic promises during 38th CISS congress in Sundvall, Sweden then fail to send an observer from the CISS EC to the World Championships in Moscow, Russia.

For the occasion of the 12th IMAFD World Championships in Martial Arts, a number of persons from Europe, Asia and Latin America came up with their questions related to the status of the CISS inner workings. Must the technical commission analyze the success before adding the sport ?

D) How come they weren't convinced to help judo after approved polling during CISS Congress 1975 for Winter deaf games in Lake Placid (New York) then in following suspend the judo competition for Summer deaf games in Bucarest, Romania 1977, Why?

E) In peculiar news, some deaf-blind people have competed in judo at the Paralympics but Deaflympic doesn't accept this sport to enter, why ?

F) IMAFD wants to have an official Demo of martial arts together with Beach volleyball and Triathlon which will be inaugurated at the 2005 Deaflympic Games in Melbourne, Australia and become official discipline for deaflympic 2009.

E) Also IMAFD wants to propose a technical modification on this world championship in alternation with actually passing 4 years if each discipline of martial arts is received for Deaflympic 2009.

5. PROPOSAL FROM NATION MEMBERS ;

1. V. Rukhledev (RUSSIA) :

A) To discuss a necessity of including Judo and Karate to official competition list of Deaflympic Games.

If most of delegates will agree with this proposal, compose a proposal from few national federations to CISS Congress in Melbourne 2005.

B) To organize any Regional confederation (European, Panamerican, Asian-Pacific) for international martial arts championship. I.M.A.F. D. should renounce responsibility for this competition organization.

2. J. Slatinsek (SLOVENIA) :

It's a must to participate in the Demo competitions for Deaflympic 2005 in Melbourne, Australia. They should put on a quick decision with other foreign countries participating.

3. H. Grill (AUSTRIA) :

Is in full support to make a quick application to CISS Congress to discuss approbation of this martial arts competitions to make it recognized for deaflympic competitions and world championships.

4. Y.P. Chao (Chinese Taipei) :

Would be a big pleasure to make a warm welcome in Taipei for this new sport to enter

Deaflympics 2009 as a discipline.

5. F. Khalef (FRANCE) :

It is surely to be approved by I.O.C like it has done to make this a legitimate discipline like the Olympics, the same thing will be for Deaflympics.

6. E. Karlen (Switzerland) :

Also his country has not clarified this situation. The CISS still has not done information precisely for the moment but his country desires to participate in judo in the Deaflympics.

7. B. Goebel (Austria) :

In the Congress Brigitte Gobl speaking that gives support to name as Honorary President Eduardo Dominguez (Arg).

I.M.A.F.D. EC approved this proposal for Honorary president of E. Dominguez and a reasonable request to contact directly to C.I.S.S. EC in order to have all problems taken care of immediately for Deaflympic 2005 for Demo and 2009 for first official competitions. All were in agreement without a formal vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

A) H. Grill (Austria) wants to know like 2 points in succession are functioned:

1) Francesco Faraone could participate in this world championship even without Italy team under order of CISS?

2) It has been authorized to exhibit together the CISS and IMAFD flags?

Nikolay Kilmov (Russia), president of RCDS, explained that he has written directly to CISS secretary, Donald Ammons for authorization because IMAFD is affiliate official associate member since 1999 and Francesco Faraone is representing under IMAFD as technical coordinator of this world championship.

B) Y. M. Frenkel, Vice president of RCDS (Russia), ask to proposal to Mr. Werner Kliever (Ger) E.D.S.O. sport coordinator, to welcome new technical director for martial arts in Europe. Mr. Kliever needs to wait to contact with EDSO EC for any discussion this case of future opening in Europe.

8. PROPOSAL FROM I.M.A.F.D. E.C.

A) Add other new sport of martial arts : Kick boxing, Ju jitsu, Aikido, self defense ect will open to apply as new disciplines that will make our development job easier of the future activity.

B) Also hearing teachers of own martial arts may be represented by new members having authorization by IMAFD EC but must have sign language interpreters for deaf students to enter as Referees or Technical Director Committee of I.M.A.F.D.

C) Opening for deaf or hard of hearing qualified referees from Hearing international and national federations of martial arts will participate also world championships for deaf.

8. ELECTION OF I.M.A.F.D. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2004-2006

There are small problems due to scarce representatives and many absent countries that impeded large numbers to apply for election into IMAFD E.C.

Eduardo Dominguez (Arg) has decided to withdraw IMAFD President to assume a new responsibility as Regional Director of South America, Valery Rukhledev (Russia) proposed the new IMAFD president to be Francesco Faraone (Italy) due to his experience in the organization since 1979.

All foreign representatives unanimously approved.

V. Rukhledev (Russia) applied for IMAFD Vice president then at the end he changed his idea and abdicated for personal motives. He offered in his place of candidate for position of Vice president to Rafael Pinkhasov Pinchas (USA/Uzbekistan).

IMAFD did not accept due to questions of his experience or qualified instructor or black belt to the minimum 3 Dan degree of martial art to follow the I.M.A.F.D statutes. In this case, elected and unanimously approved as the new I.M.A.F.D Vice President, Francois Khalef (France).

While IMAFD secretary general is still Vacant because Dr Frank Lala (USA) did not come for work conflicts, but other representative did not candidate themselves. The position opening is delayed to another date convoked by an extraordinary reunion in which the treasurer position also needs to be taken care of.

In the meantime the provisional decision put Brigitte Goebel (Austria) as Treasurer and European Regional Director in place of Ciro Laviano (Italy).

For Asia Pacific Regional Director, all in agreement for Japanese Akinobu Miyashita in place of the retired Hyung Nam Lim (Korea).

Instead it is still vacant for North America Regional Director, Briones Daniel (USA) did not come in Moscow, Russia for I.M.A.F.D.Congress and no other representatives applied. It needs to be addressed during the next extraordinary reunion unless he accepts to continue.

All I.M.A.F.D. officers were elected by acclamation as follows :

1. Honoray President : Eduardo Dominguez (Arg)
2. President : Francesco Faraone (Italy)
3. Vice President : Francois Khalef (France)
4. Secretary General : Vacant
5. 1st Treasurer provisional : Brigitte Goebel (Austria)
6. 2nd Treasuere : Vacant
7. 3rd Treasurer : Vacant
8. Africa Regional Director : Vacant
9. America of North Regional Director : Vacant
10. America of South RD : Eduardo Dominguez (Argentina)
11. Asia Pacific Regional D. : Akinobu Miyashita (Japan)
12. Europe Regional Director : Brigitte Goebel (Austria)
13. Oceania Regional D. : Vacante

NOTE :

Ex IMAFD President, Eduardo Dominguez (Arg) receives our fullest thanks for his big work regarding martial arts for the deaf and hard of hearing.

14. PROPOSAL THE NEW AFFILIATE, MEMBERSHIP AND FEES

- A) Opening proposal with decision of I.M.A.F.D. EC some reform the statute (opinion)
- C) Proposal a new national federation or association affiliate per year 100 USD
- D) It to the usual of payment for application membership : 25 USD for each 2 years also for all athletes or mangers for deaf and hearing peoples.
- E) Payment of participation feed to local responsible organization of world championships.
- F) Notice for interesting representative wants to have for the classification diploma of the W.C. 2001 in Italy (10 USD).
- G) Also sale by new IMAFD coat of arms (emblems): 3 USD.

9. SELECTION OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2006 SITE

Mr. F. Faraone (Italy) provided a ten-minute power point presentation of WC 2006 speech announcing before receiving first request from Mr. William Robertson and Mr. Ian Coyle (Great Britain) was desirous to be welcome at the sea-side town of Ayr, Scotland in to the possibility of holding the 2006 WC in the UK.

Then few months ago, it has been to annul this technical and financial motive from hearing organizations.

IMAFD was looking to announce an other place of candidacy during IMAFD Congress in Moscow, Russia that last case of interim proposal for Paris, France 2007 that unanimously has been approved to declare.

If any possibility collaborates of EDSO and FSSF for occasional favorite to develop in numerous european and around world representatives and hopefully of best future working.

10. IMAFD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN MOSCOW

Moscow, Russia on May 19-24, 2004 is the date of the 12th World Championships in Martial Arts, which will be jointly organized by the International Martial Arts Federation of Deaf and hard of hearing, ended with resounding success of Russian athletes in judo and karate.

It is expected that the coming championships will assemble the record number of nations and competitors (both men and women) in various weight classes of judo, karate, taekwondo and wushu-kung fu.

According to a report received from the IMAFD officials, the following nations are, so far, registered for the championships: Russia, Argentina, Austria, France, Greece, Israel, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Taiwan.

The host nation collected an aggregate of 82 medals, including 29 gold, 29 silver and 24 bronze for 4 division disciplines are Judo : 11 gold, 11 silver and 14 bronze; Karate : 8 gold, 8 silver and 6 bronze; Taekwondo : 2 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze and Wushu : 3 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze with 14 various countries of Europe, Asia and South America sent their male and female athletes in four different disciplines to the Moscow championships.