



Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting of 29th January 2010, St George's Bay, Malta

Present: Theo de Goeijen, President (TdG),
Lasse Lehtokangas, Vice-President (LL)
Richard Dowling, Secretary (RD)
Daniel Koener, Treasurer (DK)
Lieven Muylaert (LM)
Palle Lundborg (PL)
Marco Paladino (MP)
Frank Agius (FA)

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were noted as having been received from Jan Gajdos via FA.

TdG opened the meeting, thanking FA and Maltese Customs for hosting.

(1) Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of 12th June 2009 were agreed as a true and fair record.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 02nd October 2009 were noted, without any amendments being suggested.

(2) Matters Arising

Item 6: PL and LL advised that they had not received the 2009/2010 subscription invoices.

AP 01/10: DK to send 2009/2010 subscription invoices to all countries which did not receive them.

AP 11/09: There was a discussion about various events hosted by France and the best way of resolving any issues.

AP 02/10: TdG to invite Pierre Galland and the French Customs attaché in the Netherlands to the 2010 shooting competition in order to provide an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern.

AP 03/10: LM to invite Jacky Golanski to the 2010 shooting competition in order to provide an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern.

(3) Accession of Germany

The meeting noted with approval how TdG had been able to secure German membership of the Association. The subscription has been paid, a representative appointed and a German page set up on the website. TdG advised that Germany has expressed an interest in participating in various events.

(4) Six-a-Side Football Rules

The draft rules were agreed after contacting Jacky Golanski by phone; see Annex 3.

(5) Six-a-Side Football Tournament 25th - 28th May 2010

RD updated the meeting on the tournament preparation. Invitations and full details should be issued shortly.

(6) Adoption of ECSA Rules

The draft rules discussed at the 2009 Annual General Meeting were adopted.

(7) Website

The meeting confirmed that it took a favourable view of the current layout of the website. LL said that it was difficult getting information about, and pictures

of, delegates from some countries. TdG reiterated the importance of the website as the face that the Association presents to the world. It therefore needs to be regularly and visibly updated and good quality assurance needs to be applied. LL said that he would ensure the date of the most recent change was a feature of the homepage. PL drew attention to the groups of Customs officers on Facebook and said that an ECSA Fan Club could be set up from these, with a link to the website. A discussion of the mechanics of this took place.

AP 04/10: TdG to investigate the feasibility of using Facebook to publicise the Association.

MP asked if an ECSA Newsletter could be published.

AP 05/10: TdG to investigate the feasibility of producing a regular ECSA Newsletter.

LL commended the work of the web publishers. It was agreed that the website be a regular item on the agenda of the Executive Committee.

(8) Slovenia

TdG advised that he had made various attempts to contact Slovenia but to no avail; no subscriptions had been paid for some time. He said that Jan Gajdos had told him that he had some contacts in Slovenian Customs and might be able to help. LM and MP said that they might also be able to help.

AP 06/10: TdG to ask Jan Gajdos to use his contacts in Slovenian Customs to see if their country can be persuaded to resume contact.

AP 07/10: LM and MP to attempt to contact Slovenian Customs via the Communications Department network to see if Slovenia can be persuaded to resume contact.

(9) Calendar 2010 and 2011

2010

TdG stated that it was important to get a complete calendar on the website as soon as possible. For the shooting competition, TdG advised of the importance of participants being experienced shooters and having knowledge of, and experience in, the European Police Parkour.

It was agreed that certain events with higher numbers of participants e.g. football and volleyball, might be organised only once every two years.

Various meetings and events were agreed; see Annex 4 for details.

It was agreed that the 2010 Annual General Meeting be held in Brussels (at the Ministry of Finance Sports Centre), Belgium, with a social programme on the Saturday.

AP 08/10: RD to establish whether the United Kingdom can organise the 2011 Swimming Gala.

TdG reminded the meeting of an informal discussion at the time of the Annual General Meeting of 2009 about a team of EC members running in the Brussels 20K at the end of May; TdG, LL, DK, PL and MP agreed to take part.

AP 09/10: LM to arrange the participation of TdG, LL, DK, PL and MP, as a special team, in the Brussels 20K.

2011

TdG said that Germany had indicated that it might be amenable to hosting an ECSA meeting in the near future.

AP 10/10: TdG to contact the German representative to see if his country can host the January 2011 EC meeting.

AP 11/10: TdG to contact the Hungarian representative to see if his country can organise ECSA participation in the Lake Balaton Supermarathon in 2011.

AP 12/10: TdG to contact the Austrian representative to see if his country can organise the golf in 2011.

AP 13/10: TdG to contact the Slovakian representative to see if his country can organise the shooting in 2011.

AP 14/10: TdG to contact the Hungarian representative to discuss possible improvements in the organisation of the marathon.

Various meetings and events were agreed; see Annex 5 for details.

(10) Treasurer's Report

The meeting agreed that the 150 Euros paid by Malta at the 2009 Annual General Meeting could be regarded as payment of the 2009/2010 subscription.

DK issued an analysis of income and expenditure for the period to 31st December 2009 and commented briefly about individual items thereon. He also showed TdG the bank statements as of that date to confirm the balances shown on the analysis.

DK advised that Lithuania had erroneously paid their subscription for 2009 twice; accordingly their subscription for 2009/2010 could be regarded as having been paid. He also advised that France paid by a cheque sent to his home address; this would cost the Association 10 Euros in bank charges.

AP 15/10: DK to recover 10 Euros in bank charges from France.

DK advised that Latvia had not paid their 2008, 2009 and 2009/2010 subscriptions. LL said that he could try to use his contacts in Latvian Customs to resolve this.

AP 16/10: LL to use contacts in Latvian Customs to attempt to obtain payment of overdue subscriptions.

(11) Event Organisers' Guide

It was agreed in principle to publish this but that EC members should be given the opportunity to make detailed comments first.

AP 17/10: RD to circulate the draft Event Organisers' Guide for comment, with a view to ratification at the June 2010 EC meeting.

(12) Any Other Business

TdG advised that Estonia wished to join ECSA but had said that they could not currently afford the subscription. They had therefore asked whether they could participate in events before formally joining. LM outlined the background to similar issues that had arisen in the past. Following discussion, it was agreed that Estonia could participate in the Kosice Marathon on a one-off basis and in the 2010 Annual General Meeting as an observer but that participation beyond that could only be accepted once they had formally joined the Association.

AP 18/10: TdG to advise Estonia that they can participate in the Kosice Marathon and as an observer at the 2010 Annual General Meeting but that all other participation will be contingent on full ECSA membership.

LM said that he would be sounding out Robert Andrecs of TAXUD about how good relations with the new Director-General of TAXUD could best be promoted.

LM suggested that Cyprus could sound out Greece about the possibility of joining the Association.

AP 19/10: TdG to ask the Cyprus representative to approach Greece about the possibility of it joining the Association.

It was noted that Romania and Bulgaria could be approached regarding ECSA membership. PL reminded the meeting that membership was not limited to member States of the European Union. LL said that PL and he had been trying for some time to contact Norwegian Customs about the Association and that his Director-General would mention it at a forthcoming meeting with his Norwegian opposite number.

It was noted that there is a link from the TAXUD website to the Association's website; other possible future links were discussed.

FA thanked the EC for inviting him to the meeting.

PL asked about trophies at events. He was told that there was no particular policy on prize-giving and that decisions on how many trophies to award, etc were up to the organisers of events.

LL noted that there would be a meeting of Customs Directors-General in Finland the following week and that the Finnish Director-General would be seeking to promote the Association both at the meeting and with the new TAXUD Director-General. The meeting expressed its appreciation to LL.

Polo shirts and sew-on badges were issued to each person present; TdG said that he had more such badges in stock. He reminded the meeting that the stick-on patches issued at the 2009 Annual General Meeting were for putting on prizes and gifts. PL was asked to order an additional twenty XXL polo shirts.

AP 20/10: PL to order an additional twenty XXL polo shirts.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee was agreed for Thursday 10th June 2010 in Luxembourg.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.55pm.

**RICHARD DOWLING
SECRETARY
08TH FEBRUARY 2010**

Annex 1

Update on Action Points Taken Forward from previous Meeting(s)

AP	BY	ACTION POINT
		From Executive Committee meeting of 12 June 2009
01/09	TdG	TdG to check his files to find his response or that of KS to JG's E-mail about the shooting competition and to advise JG.
		<i>Discharged, copy of E-mail of 03/02.2009 sent to JG.</i>
02/09	TdG	TdG to send EC members a copy of his Powerpoint presentation to the Customs Directors-General in Budapest.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
03/09	LL	LL to send EC members a copy of the minutes of the meeting of Customs Directors-General in Budapest.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
04/09	TdG	TdG to write to Slovenia and Malta concerning their unpaid 2008 subscriptions.
		<i>Discharged. See agenda item 9 regarding Slovenia, Malta subscription paid.</i>
05/09	DK	DK to E-mail the analysis of income and expenditure to RD, so that it can be sent out with the minutes of the meeting.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
06/09	LL	LL to incorporate agreed amendments into the draft rules and to send a new draft by E-mail to EC members.
		<i>Discharged. Not possible this year but maybe next year.</i>
07/09	TdG	TdG to approach Robert Andrecs of TAXUD to see if the European Commission can assist with the acquisition of promotional items.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
08/09	TdG	TdG to draft a letter introducing ECSA to the new Director-General of TAXUD, consulting with Robert Andrecs concerning the best method of delivery.
		<i>Void, letter received from the TAXUD Director-General.</i>
09/09	JG	JG to send TdG his examples of promotional items.
		<i>Ongoing.</i>
10/09	LL	LL to include on the website a note of when it was last updated and to advise on this via WEBNEWS E-mails.
		<i>Discharged, LL has informed the webmasters but will also remind them.</i>

11/09	DK	DK to informally remind France that the working language is English and to explain any misunderstanding about the Cross des Kepis event.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
12/09	DK	DK to ask France to endeavour to send out invitations to events earlier where possible.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
13/09	LL	LL to advise TdG whether Finland can host the 2010 sniffer dog competition.
		<i>Discharged, not possible this year.</i>
14/09	RD	RD to advise TdG whether the United Kingdom can host the 2010 six-a-side football tournament.
		<i>Discharged. The UK will host the tournament, on 26th & 27th May 2010.</i>
15/09	TdG	TdG to write to all member states seeking volunteers to host events (including the 2010 AGM) where hosts are still required.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
16/09	PL	PL to send LL his Powerpoint presentation of important dates in the ECSA administrative and financial calendar.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
17/09	RD	RD and the six-a-side football tournament working party to have an agreed set of rules ready for presentation at the AGM.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
18/09	TdG	TdG to write to Cyprus asking that €185 be brought to the AGM, the extra €35 being to reimburse the ECSA for bank charges of €17.50 @ 2 incurred when previous subscriptions have been paid.
		<i>Discharged, paid by bank transfer.</i>
		From Annual General Meeting of 01st October 2009
19/09	DK	DK to send out subscription invoices by 31st October, requesting payment by 01st February.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
20/09	ALL	Any member states having difficulty with the new arrangements for payment of the subscription to contact TdG.
		<i>Discharged, no difficulties notified.</i>
21/09	ALL	Suggestions for promotional items to be sent to TdG.
		<i>Ongoing.</i>
22/09	BS	BS to seek approval from his administration to host the sniffer dog competition in 2010.
		<i>Discharged, not possible in 2010.</i>

23/09	MP	MP to advise TdG whether he is able to accept election to the Executive Committee.
		<i>Discharged, MP was able to accept election.</i>
24/09	TdG	TdG to contact Mick O'Hanlon of Ireland to see whether he is able to act as auditor for 2009 - 2010.
		<i>Ongoing, Mick's situation unclear at present.</i>
25/09	ALL	Comments on the draft six-a-side football rules to be sent to ASL by 18th December.
		<i>Discharged, agenda item for this meeting.</i>

Annex 2

Action Points Taken Forward

AP	BY	ACTION POINT
		From Executive Committee meeting of 12th June 2009
09/09	JG	JG to send TdG his examples of promotional items.
		From Annual General Meeting of 01st October 2009
21/09	ALL	Suggestions for promotional items to be sent to TdG.
24/09	TdG	TdG to contact Mick O'Hanlon of Ireland to see whether he is able to act as auditor for 2009 - 2010.
		From Executive Committee meeting of 29th January 2010
01/10	DK	DK to send 2009/2010 subscription invoices to all countries which did not receive them.
02/10	TdG	TdG to invite Pierre Galland and the French Customs attache in the Netherlands to the 2010 shooting competition in order to provide an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern.
03/10	LM	LM to invite Jacky Golanski to the 2010 shooting competition in order to provide an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern.
04/10	TdG	TdG to investigate the feasibility of using Facebook to publicise the Association.
05/10	TdG	TdG to investigate the feasibility of producing a regular ECSA Newsletter.
06/10	TdG	TdG to ask Jan Gajdos to use his contacts in Slovenian Customs to see if their country can be persuaded to resume contact.
07/10	LM/ MP	LM and MP to attempt to contact Slovenian Customs via the Communications Department network to see if Slovenia can be persuaded to resume contact.
08/10	RD	RD to establish whether the United Kingdom can organise the 2011 Swimming Gala.
09/10	LM	LM to arrange the participation of TdG, LL, DK, PL and MP, as a special team, in the Brussels 20K.
10/10	TdG	TdG to contact the German representative to see if his country can host the January 2011 EC meeting.
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15/10	DK	DK to recover 10 Euros in bank charges from France.
16/10	LL	LL to use contacts in Latvian Customs to attempt to obtain payment of overdue subscriptions.
17/10	RD	RD to circulate the draft Event Organisers' Guide for comment, with a view to ratification at the June 2010 EC meeting.
18/10	TdG	TdG to advise Estonia that they can participate in the Kosice Marathon and as an observer at the 2010 Annual General Meeting but that all other participation will be contingent on full ECSA membership.
19/10	TdG	TdG to ask the Cyprus representative to approach Greece about the possibility of it joining the Association.
20/10	PL	PL to order an additional twenty XXL polo shirts.

Annex 3

Football: Rules of competition – 6 A Side Rules

1. The FIFA laws of the game shall apply unless otherwise stated.
2. Pitch dimensions: 50m X 35m inc. goal size of 2m high by 5m long with a goalkeeping area extending 10m from the goal line.
3. Each squad shall consist of up to ten players, only six of whom plus any one substitute may play in any one match. Substitution may take place at any time providing play has stopped with the referee's permission. The number of substitutions made during a match shall not be limited. A player who has been replaced may return to the pitch as a substitute for another player. Any of the other players, or substitutes, may change places with the goalkeeper. The following conditions must be observed:
 - the referee must be informed before the change is made;
 - the change may only be made during a stoppage in play.
4. Teams shall provide a set of coloured shirts or be prepared to play in alternative kit as required.
5. Prior to the commencement of the tournament the organisers shall decide the duration of matches but games shall be two halves of at least ten minutes except for the semi-finals and final which shall be two halves of at least fifteen minutes.
6. After a goal the game shall be restarted from the centre spot.
7. There shall be no offside.
8. All free kicks to be direct and 'throw-in to be taken by foot.
9. Captains shall toss for choice of ends. Each half shall commence with a kick-off.
10. In the group matches, three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a draw. Group winners (and runners-up if time permits) shall go forward to the knockout stages.

In the event of two or more teams being level on points at the conclusion of the group matches, places in the knockout stages shall be decided in the following order:

- the team with the superior goal difference shall go through;
- in the event of identical goal difference, the team scoring more goals shall go through;
- in the event of identical goal difference and goals scored, the team having the superior record in matches between the teams who are level on points shall go through;
- if teams still cannot be separated, a method of random chance selection shall be employed.

Matches drawn at the knockout stage shall be decided by a penalty shoot-out. The six players remaining on the pitch at the end of the match shall be those who will take part in the penalty shoot out. Should the teams still be equal after six penalties have been taken, the shoot out shall continue on a "sudden death" basis.

11. *Discipline*

Any player who receives a caution during the competition shall be automatically suspended from playing in the next match that their team are involved in.

Any player who receives two cautions during the competition shall be automatically suspended from playing in the next two matches that their team are involved in.

Any player sent off during the competition shall be automatically banned from the remainder of the competition.

Referees are asked to inform the organisers of any such incidents.

12. Team organisers shall report to the tournament organiser at least thirty minutes before the start of their first match. In order that the tournament proceeds on time, teams **MUST** be at their allotted pitch at the time stated.

Annex 4

Events & Meetings in 2010

Activity	Date	Member State	Comments
EC meeting	29/01	Malta	
Downhill Skiing	28/02 - 07/03	Italy	
Cross Country	18/03	France	La Sauldre
Table Tennis	13/05 - 16/05	Poland	
6-a-side Football	26/05 - 27/05	United Kingdom	Newcastle-on-Tyne
20K Road Race	30/05	Belgium	Brussels
EC meeting	10/06	Luxembourg	
Golf	16/06 - 18/06	Sweden	
Shooting	03/07	Belgium & Netherlands	
Walking	20/07 - 23/07	Netherlands	Nijmegen
Athletics	03/09 - 05/09	Czech Republic	10K & 1 mile
Marathon	01/10 - 04/10	Slovakia	Kosice
AGM	01/10	Belgium	Brussels

Annex 5

Events & Meetings in 2011

Activity	Date	Member State	Comments
EC meeting	January	??	
Downhill Skiing	February/March	Italy	
Supermarathon?	March	Hungary?	Lake Balaton
Table Tennis	May	Poland	
20K Road Race	May	Belgium	Brussels
Golf	June	Austria?	
EC meeting	June	Sweden	
Shooting	July	Slovakia?	JG to confirm
Walking	July	Netherlands	Nijmegen
Swimming	August?	United Kingdom?	RD to confirm
Athletics	September	Czech Republic	10K & 1 mile
Marathon	October	Hungary	
Volleyball	October	Finland	
AGM	October	Finland	