



IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE IAAF

General Assembly :Assemblée Générale

30th October 2016 - 30th Octobre 2016

Perth, Australia.

Mercure Hotel :10 Irwin Street, Perth, STARTING AT 9.00 AM

PRESENT:

WMA Council

Stan Perkins, AUS, President; Margit Jungmann, GER, Executive Vice President; Serge Beckers, BEL, Vice-President Stadia; Selma Türkkal, TUR, Women's Representative; Jean Gracia, FRA, IAAF Representative; Leonie Etong, CAM, Africa Representative; Sivasambo Sivapragasam, MAL, Asia Representative; Kurt Kaschke, GER, Europe Representative; Lynne Schickert, AUS, Oceania Representative; Sandy Pashkin, USA, North, Central America & Caribbean Representative; Richard Amigo, PAR, South America Representative; Jean Thomas, FRA, Treasurer; and Winston Thomas, GB/NI, Secretary.

Delegates

In accordance with section 4.2.5 of the WMA Constitution, the WMA Affiliates listed below, by region, gave proper notice of their delegates, totalling 120, who in turn had automatic voting rights.

- Africa (5):

Cameroon (1), Mauritius (1), Nigeria (1), South Africa (2)

- Asia (19):

China PR (1), Hong Kong (1), India (5), Indonesia (1), Iran (1), Japan (2), Korea (1), Malaysia (1), Mongolia (1), Nepal (1), Philippines (1), Singapore (1), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (1).

- Europe (55):

Austria (2), Belgium (2), Czech Republic (2), Denmark (1), Estonia (2), Finland (5), France (5), Germany (5), Gt Britain & Northern Ireland (5), Ireland (2), Italy (5), Latvia (1), Lithuania (1), Netherlands (3), Norway (1), Poland (2), Portugal (1), Romania (1), Slovakia (1), Slovenia (1), Spain (2), Sweden (2), Switzerland (2), Ukraine (1).

- North and Central America & the Caribbean (18):

Canada (5), Costa Rica (1), Mexico (5), Puerto Rico (2), USA (5).

- Oceania (8):

Australia (5), Cook Island (1), Fiji (1), New Zealand (1).

- South America (15):

Argentina (5), Brazil (5), Chile (2), Colombia (2), Uruguay (1).

There were 120 Delegates and 13 Council members making a total of 133 votes. It was recorded as 118 delegates plus 13 Council members registered at the beginning of the General Assembly, Total 131. With two members attending after the first roll call.

Guests:

Richard Blurton of the Perth LOC.

Cesar Moreno-Bravo and his wife Veronica.

Lyn Ventriss and husband John. 2011-2012 WMA Best Female Masters Athlete

Organising Committee WMA 2017 Indoor championships, Daegu, South Korea

Organising member for WMA 2018 Outdoor championships in Malaga, Spain

Bid team of Torun, POL, for the WMA 2019 Indoor championships

Bid teams of Gothenburg, SWE, and Toronto, CAN, for the WMA 2020 WMA Stadia championships

Agenda

1. 09.00 Opening of the General Assembly

President Stan Perkins welcomed the delegates, the guests, bid teams and future organisers. He gave a special welcome to Cesar Moreno-Bravo who had been the IAAF Masters Chairman for some 25 years. Pierre Weiss the new chairman was not able to attend the meeting, but the president welcomed Jean Gracia the "Secretarial Adviser" for the IAAF as they look to complete the new changes in their structure. The president gave the floor to Richard Blurton to say a few words.

Richard thanked the delegates and their athletes for their support of the championship, and expressed how well things had run. He also thanked his LOC members for all their work, as well as members of TriEvents, the Event Management and Athletics WA for the Competition Management. He expressed that Perth now has a second top class venue as a result of the championships and they will be happy to pass on what they have learnt to WMA and future hosts.

2. 09.05 Certification of the proper calling of the General Assembly and voting instructions.

The Secretary confirmed the proper calling of the General Assembly, but explained to the Assembly that the contents of the Constitution, transition agreement and Rule changes had been sent late. This was accepted by the Assembly. Moved by Ireland, 2nd by USA.

3. 09.15 Election of 2 scrutineers for the minutes

Bob Schickert and Delia Baldock were appointed as the scrutineers.

4. 09.20 Election of up to 3 persons to count the votes.

Robert Thomas, Latashia Key and Mushin Turkkal were appointed as counters.

5. 09.25 Matters arising from 2015 General Assembly Lyon, France.

There were no matters arising from the general assembly in Lyon. Minutes adopted; moved by Australia, 2nd by Germany.

6. 09.35 Submission and approval of reports from the:

- President

The President highlighted important points within the report.

Summary: For the 2020 bids we had 4 candidates and firstly Colombia withdrew and at the very last stage Tampere, Finland also withdrew. So we were left with two excellent candidates Gothenburg, SWE and Toronto CAN. For the Indoors we have an excellent bid in Torun, POL.

He explained some points that were needed to be resolved with the facilities in Malaga, ESP following an inspection by the Council.

He also expressed his disappointment on the non attendances of the Non Stadia Vice present for meetings and competition since his election, and thanked Brian Keaveney for stepping in and taking on the responsibilities of the post.

The president addressed some matters from the Anti-Doping fallout in Russia and the fact that Russian athletes were not able to compete in our championships, as well as some of the things that Dr Steve Peters was doing, including an open forum during the committee meetings. He went on to Law and Legislation Committee, competition and organisational operating guidelines, the transition of WMA from Sweden to Monaco, some of the issues from the championships in Lyon like transport, change of venues, results and training facilities.

The IAAF master event in Beijing was a great success as was the Indoors in Portland, USA, but there is no event scheduled for London in 2017. It is hoped that when the IAAF Master Commission meet this may be resolved.

Finally he explained WMA had put into place their competition management team at the championships and the results from this so far showed that it was the correct way to go in the future. All the points are fully outlined in the president's report.

- Executive Vice President

Margit Jungmann's report was taken as per the GA booklet, and she added that the Perth Booklets would become a template for future championships. She thanked members of her committee who have helped her to make the Organisational Guidelines. She has had a busy 3 years but with very good support from all those around her.

- Vice President Stadia

Serge Beckers added to his report the competition management team would now become a standard operating structure, the Age Grade factors and Combined Events tables will be updated for publishing in 2020, the Stadia competition guidelines will be passed on to the new Competition Vice President to finalise. He thanked members of his stadia committee attending at the GA and Sandy Pashkin. One of his frustrations has always been that he was not able to have a face to face meeting with his committee. He thanked all the affiliates, athletes and WMA council members for their support during his terms of office.

- Vice President Non-Stadia

No report, within the Presidents summary

- Secretary

The secretary commented that as per his report the situation with regional representatives needs to be questioned, as could be seen by him running around to do proper check of the registration of the delegates which should

have been done by them. Affiliates need to question their Regional members to find out what they are doing for them.

He went on to thank the members for their help in working with him over the past years, and hope that they help the new secretary in the same ways.

The president thanked Serge Beckers and Winston Thomas, and asked the members to take the time to read the secretary report so that they get some understanding of the scope of his involvement. He is not an easy person to get on with and it is not easy to change his mind, but he is very loyal and has been loyal to our sport and a loyal friend to the president. He says things as they need to be said and sometimes this has "ruffled some people" but his intent has always been good and for the masters and he has always done the right thing, the president will miss him.

- Women's Representative

Women's Representative went through her report as circulated.

She hoped that some more of the women here will attend the women's meetings. She introduced the Women's Representatives from Asia and South America. The women's meeting are important for face to face discussions. Women's participation in WMA championships has increased and she has some statistics. Good to have some Kenyan women in Perth.

USA proposed the acceptance of the reports. 2nd by Canada.

Approved Unanimously

7. Submission and approval of the auditor's report

Jean Thomas put to the GA the Auditors report (KPMG). No questions from the floor.

USA proposed the acceptance of the reports. 2nd by Germany.

Approved Unanimously.

8. Submission and approval Treasurer Report

The treasurer went through his report and the financial statements. WMA was in a far better financial state that the previous years and should continue in an upward trend.

The 2015 balance sheet showed a total of \$445,691 a rise on 2014. Our liquidity at the present time stands at over \$518,000 in the bank. Our revenues rose by around 40%, mainly due to the large entry in the Lyon Championships and the extra IAAF grant, so thank you to the IAAF.

He went on to explain the working capital had now risen to a level where it now represents more or less one year of operational expenses. He then explained the budgets for the 2016/17 period and was looking at a reasonable surplus for the end of both periods.

USA moved the reports be accepted. 2nd Canada.

Accepted Unanimously

The President went on to thank Jean Thomas and said that the WMA finance was now in a good position following the restructure of our financial arrangements in 2013. Thanks to Winston Thomas for the work he undertook in

doing this and we can now see the benefits. WMA will have to look at paid staff in the future to assist the Council, as we cannot continue to work on a totally voluntary basis, as we have done for 40 years. Electronic communication creates more problems in that responses are now needed more or less instantly on e-mails and other communication types. This is for the future and hopefully we can do this with some assistance from the IAAF. Thanks to Jean Thomas for his report.

9. Submission of report on IAAF Representative

Jean Gracia greeted the assembly and the honoured guests on behalf of the IAAF President. He added some comments to the report in the GA booklet on the position of the IAAF.

He outlined the problems that had beset the IAAF since 2015 after Beijing which tarnished the reputation of athletics, and some of the solution that had been proposed by the President Sebastian Coe.

- Organisation : Finance: Ethical Compliance
- Constitutional changes:
- Governance Reform Working group
- Roles and responsibilities including member federations, Regional associations: Greater voice for Athletes: Better gender balance: Independent Anti-Doping and disciplinary functions.

There have been many workshop/road shows set up to explain these changes to the member federations and Regional associations and stake holders.

There will be a special congress on the 3rd of December in Monaco when this will be voted on. Jean explained that this will be a great opportunity to change the future for our sport and we have to work together to attain this and he trusted in our support. The Masters Commission was set up in 2013 to help to integrate masters athletics into the IAAF. He thanked Cesar Moreno-Bravo for his role within the IAAF as well as the Masters Chairman, and the success of the committee and now the commission. Since 2015 there has been no meeting but new committee members have been elected from the IAAF as outlined in the report.

It was sad that the IAAF Gala and thus the Best Master presentation for 2015 had to be cancelled, as this was an important showcase for masters.

An important key point of the Masters Commission is the integration of masters associations into the National Federations. We have to work on getting federations that do not have masters, to start masters events and become affiliated to WMA these are some of the challenges for the new Commission.

The problems with the World masters games (IMGA) are also an important matter that has to be resolved and talks will be resumed on this matter at some point, it has not been forgotten. He went on to thank the secretary for the many years they have collaborated in masters athletics.

10. 10.35 Elect WMA Honorary Members

There were no honorary nominations, but following the election for the position of secretary a silver pin was awarded to Serge Becker for his time of service on the council.

11. 10.40 Confirmation of the Expulsion of the Kenyan Veterans Athletics Association.

The Secretary outlined the position of the Kenya Amateur Athletics Association and showed the letter that had been sent as per the constitution. He reported that there had been no response received.

He therefore put it to the GA that the said association be considered for "dissolution" by the members and then a new association formed under Kenya Athletics. He also introduced Rose Maru who had been sent by the president of Kenya Athletics to represent them.

No actual question was asked of the association.

USA asked about the athletes from Kenya that had been approved for competing in Perth. The secretary explained that these persons were accepted as individual athletes under WMA.

The president explained that the LOC had made some changes to accommodate some of the athletes that had arrived late, and it was good to have the Kenyan athletes competing in Perth so we should give them a real welcome. One athlete had competed as a guest in a final field event, because he had missed the preliminaries and it was his only event, but he was not counted in the results.

The USA asked what would be the process following the decision of the GA. The Secretary explained that he would write to the Association to let them know and a new Association under Kenya Athletics would be formed. He already has the affiliation form but this cannot be implemented before the decision of the GA.

The USA put the motion that the Kenya Amateur Athletics Association be expelled from WMA, 2nd by RSA.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Bob Banens made a point that KAAA should have the right of "Appeal" under the new constitution before the process was finalised. This was accepted.

Note: Under the present Constitution which the matter was dealt with there was no right of appeal.

12. 11:00 Coffee Break (30 minutes - sharp)

13. 11.40 Submission of the New WMA Constitution and Registration in Monaco

The president read the transition clauses made in the 2015 General Assembly. The date that was set as November 3, was changed to October 30th, this gave an opportunity for the IAAF president to attend our GA. The Solicitors have indicated that this will not make a difference and the Transition is to be signed after the last day of the Championships, 6th November.

Bob Banens was asked to explain the points to the General Assembly. Presently we have two associations, one registered in Sweden which is running the championships, and the one now registered in Monaco. The present general Assembly is being held under WMA Monaco, as the transition agreement has been agreed and all that is needed is for the document to be signed on the 6th November following the end of the competition (**Please note there was no meeting on the 6th November so the Signing was on the 7th November when the Council met**).

Bob Banens explained that there were some minor changes to the constitution and by-laws at the request of the Monegasque government. He went on to explain that the present Council will hand over all the assets of WMA Sweden to the New Council of WMA Monaco.

The president explained that this had been a long process since 2011 and he thanked Pierre Weiss and Jean Thomas for their diligence in working with the Monegasque Authorities to get a final resolution. He also thanked the delegates and Bob Banens for their help and patience on the final outcome.

The GA accepted the transition of "Old WMA Sweden to the New WMA Monaco.

14. 12.00 Elections

Executive Vice President: Margit Jungmann, GER

Margit Jungmann gave a short speech, and explained that the position of the Vice president was a very busy job but was enjoyable, particularly with the support of her committee, the council members and the affiliates who gave her a lot of support. Whilst the future is secure there is still more work to do and she hopes to continue this in the next 4 years and thanks to all the delegates for their confidence in her.

A vote was taken and Margit Jungmann was voted:

UNANIMOUSLY AS THE WMA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

The president thanked Margit Jungmann and explained that she does a marvellous job and is a great contributor to WMA matters outside of the organisational role.

Vice President Competition: Brian Keaveney, CAN

Brian Keaveney said several months ago he did not know that he would be the only person running for the position so he prepared his own propaganda. He has spent his entire career in Stadia and Non-Stadia. The new position will be difficult but he plans to build working committees of people that are experts in their field and will work for the athletes. So voting for him will also be voting for the new committees that will help to give the best possible outcome to our championships. The first WMA championships were held in Canada 1975 and he is proud to be a Canadian and wants to carry that forward for the future and the next 4 years.

A vote was taken and Brian Keaveney was voted:

UNANIMOUSLY AS THE WMA VICE PRESIDENT COMPETITION

The president explained the decision from 2011 in streamlining the positions for competition and convincing people that it was the right way to go. In doing so they then had to find the right person to take on the task and whilst Brian Keaveney was a forerunner and someone we knew could do the job, it took a long time to convince him, so it was good to have him back on the council.

Secretary: Serge Beckers, BEL

Serge Becker outlined his credentials to the delegates; after 7 years on working for WMA he has the capacity the energy and the skills for this new position, he has no problem to cooperate with anyone. During his time as VP Stadia it has not been easy to combine this with his role in the Belgian forces, but he will be retiring from the 1st January 2017. This means that

he will have all the necessary time to dedicate to the functions of the secretary.

It is easy for him to communicate with anyone; he speaks other languages which is absolutely a bonus for the position. Short words in French, German and Spanish. I think that this is a very important position where I can contribute to provide more service to the athletes, delegates, national affiliates, regions, WMA Council and the IAAF. I hope you think me worthy of your vote and you allow me to be at your service once again.

The president allowed some time for any questions, as we had not had an election forum as in the past.

There were no questions for Serge Beckers.

Maria Alfaro-Casan, MEX

Maria Alfaro-Casan introduced herself and went on to say that she runs for the post of secretary because she wants to help the masters movement worldwide grow even more and to continue development. How will I do this? Firstly, team work; team work with the athletes, the affiliates, the regions and other bodies, but importantly with you the affiliates. I have experience in the sport of athletics and am still the Mexican masters 100/80m Hurdles champion. I am a race walk judge on the WMA panel and have officiated at many championships indoors and outdoors. Lately I have been working directly with the secretary so everything that I need to know I have learnt directly from him.

Translation in Spanish followed.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Question from Australia to both candidates:

Question. The position of secretary can be an arduous task and having your own business how will this impact on the duties of the secretary?

Answer. Maria explained that her business is self sustaining with people working with her and she will have no problems with travel and doing what is necessary.

Serge explained that from January he will have no professional career so he will have all the time necessary to fulfil the role.

A vote was taken for the post of Secretary:

During the count the Secretary clarified that there were 131 votes with the Council, who had not been counted before.

VOTES:

Serge Beckers: 34. Maria Alfaro-Casan: 95

The president declared:

MARIA ALFARO-CASAN AS THE WMA SECRETARY

The President thanked Serge Becker for his time as Vice president Stadia and the task of mixing his military duties with his post which was many times very difficult. The president then presented him with the WMA Silver Pin.

The USA called for the ballot slips to be destroyed. 2nd by Canada.

This was formerly done by the Secretary.

Rex Harvey was given the floor for a short speech, he acknowledged the plaque that was awarded to him in Lyon for services to Masters Athletics and as he was too overcome at the time to take it all in, he thanked the president and the council for the unexpected gesture.

Masters athletics is the most basic sports of all, and is the most objective of all. The stop watch and the tape measure does no one any favours, it matters not what nation, nationality, colour or size, our sport involves all body types. It been a long road but with the help of Cesar Moreno-Bravo we have been able to show the upper echelon of our sport that masters are important. We as masters athletes have so many other roles in the sport, so it is important that we are building the respect for masters at the top levels and thanks to all of those that are bringing us along that path. His cancer is presently arrested and he is in good health so we will see more of him in the future.

19. 12.25 voting on motions to Amend Rules of Competition.

MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND RULE CHANGES

WMA COUNCIL MOTIONS

1) *MOTION: The 3km Indoor Track Walk is removed following the 2017 Indoor championship.*

Motion Withdrawn.

2) *MOTION: New event from 2019. A 3km Outdoor Race Walk Event is included in Indoor championships following from the 2017 Indoor championship. Not a Team Event.*

2nd Ireland.

Great Britain spoke on behalf of the motion.

Austria would like it to be a 5km walk, this is put as an amendment by Australia 2nd by Austria.

New event from 2019. A 5km Outdoor Road Race Walk Event is included in Indoor championships following from the 2017 Indoor championship. It will not be a Team Event.

A vote was taken on the amendment, and was **carried**.

The amended version became the motion and was

carried by majority with 3 votes against.

3. That the MARATHON event be removed from the WMA Stadia Championships programme, effective 1 January 2017. 2nd USA

Reason: with declining entries and costs in arranging Marathons Council feels that it is now time that we looked at alternative ways of putting on the marathon.

The refusal of cities to close roads and the rising costs of closing roads and holding a marathon has become very expensive. By taking out the marathon and putting in a half marathon we have the advantage being able to put the event nearly anywhere and is more cost effective. In 2011 the entries for

the marathon were 303. 2013: M 247, HM 324. 2015: M 449, HM 787. 2016: approx. M 250, HM 500. That is the reason for the motion.

Regions should be encouraged to have inter regional marathons. Europe have taken it out of their championships and will have their EMA marathon in 2017, in Poland. This will be incorporated in an existing marathon and they hope for around 1000 entries. They will have only the half marathon in their Stadia championships.

Following several comments; on asking the runners, the numbers that already enter, the next hosts 2018-2020 not wanting to have the marathon, athletes already voting with their feet as shown by the entries; the president put the vote to the Assembly.

CARRIED BY MAJORITY, WITH 7 AGAINST

It is suggested that WMA will look to attach a WMA Marathon championship to an existing, quality marathon event somewhere in the world in a possible city marathon. Regional members to discuss this and put to Council.

Germany asked that with the regions putting on their own marathons, can we look over perhaps a 3 year period to see what the entries and financial status was and WMA then looks at having its own marathon. The President answered that this is a possibility and can be looked at.

4. That the HALF MARATHON event be included in future WMA Stadia Championships, effective from 1 January 2017.

2nd by Australia

Reason: Self explanatory - straight replacement for the marathon - easier to organise and much more cost effective due to possibility of loop courses etcetera.

No discussions, the vote was taken

CARRIED BY MAJORITY, WITH 1 AGAINST (as a gesture)

5. That the HALF MARATHON event be removed from the WMA Indoors Championships, effective 1 January 2018.

2nd Germany

Reason: This motion clears the conflict between Stadia and Indoors competitions having the same event as a championship distance event.

Amendment from Canada 2nd by Austria.

That the HALF MARATHON event be removed as a required event from the WMA Indoors Championships, effective 1st January 2018.

Amendment Carried.

Australia, this means that there could be a Half Marathon or a "possible 10km" in future Indoor championships. (Correct)

The motion is put and: **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. That a 10KM ROAD RACE be included in future WMA INDOORS Championships in all age groups, commencing 1 January 2018. 2nd Ireland

Reason: This replaces the half marathon and again is a logical adjustment to better cater for the indoors environment where it can be snow and cold

weather and the half marathon is not suitable. And gives the LOC the chance of having a mass participation event for their city.

Question: New Zealand does the half marathon and will the 10Km incorporate a team event? Answer. Yes

The vote is put and: **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. That the 10,000 METRES TRACK RACE be DELETED from the WMA Stadia Championships commencing 1 January 2017. 2nd Canada

Reason: This event has been attracting declining number of athletes each championships. In addition the conduct of this event has created programming problems with the amount of time needed to run the entire event being disproportionate to the number of athletes involved.

Question. Australia, if the criteria for this event could mean that older athletes in other events are also then taken out, there is a concern that we are saying because the event takes a long time to complete we remove, and there are more athletes that compete in the 10,000m than something like the pole vault.

From Sandy Pashkin and Serge Beckers; one of the points that is not shown in the text is a safety point that in extreme conditions it is difficult to run the 10,000m during the day, whilst the 10km can be run early mornings. Following several points Germany proposed that we consider point 8 (the next motion) before the present one, as it does have a large bearing on the vote.

France asked for clarification whether the 10km would be a team event and whether men and women would run together. The President said the competition committee would decide on whether it was a team event and no we would not have men and women separately.

USA made an Amendment, 2nd by Germany. This incorporated motion 7 and 8 together.

That the 10,000 METRES TRACK RACE be DELETED from the WMA Stadia Championships commencing 1 January 2017 and be replaced by a 10km Road race commencing from 1 January, 2017.

Vote was taken: **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Amendment became the Motion:

Sweden expressed that the 10,000m is a very popular distance and can be done much faster than it is presently done, so they say no to this change.

Following several comments from Great Britain/NI, Canada, Australia against and the USA and Austria for; the president put the vote to the assembly.

The Motion was carried 68 for and 38 Against.

8. The WMA introduce a 10KM ROAD RACE into WMA STADIA CHAMPIONSHIPS, commencing from 1 January, 2017.

Reason: This will be an event that allows more flexible programming and will take considerably less time than the event it replaces. It also provides the opportunity for championship hosts to conduct a mass participation event to increase awareness of the championships and involve the local communities.

This motion has been superseded by the amended motion passed under motion 7.

9. **That the CROSS COUNTRY RACE for MEN AND WOMEN age groups 70 plus be reduced from 8KM to 6KM, effective from 1st January 2018. 2nd Ireland**

Reason: There have been a considerable number of requests that this change be considered, particularly as several recent championships have experienced hot and humid conditions for this event.

Great Britain/NI made an amendment, 2nd by Czech Republic.

That the CROSS COUNTRY RACE for MEN AND WOMEN age groups 65 plus be reduced from 8KM to 6KM, effective from 1 January 2018.

Amendment was voted and Lost.

Canada then proposed a 2nd amendment of 80 for men and women, but was not 2nd; so the original motion stood

Note: The other consideration with this change is how to manage the team events for these age groups. It was agreed any runner from 70+ age groups that was being dropped down to form a team in a lower age group would have to still run the 8km.

Brian Keaveney said that 70 was an appropriate age group for the team events. New Zealand said they had introduced this last season and it had gone down well.

The motion was put to the Vote and: **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

WMA COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE RULE CHANGES AND IAAF EXCEPTIONS

WMA Stadia Committee

Amend Appendix A4 as follows: DISCUS

Minimum Record Wt. kg	0.750
Maximum Recorded Wt . kg	0.775
Outside Diameter min. mm	166
Outside Diameter max. mm	182
Diameter of Flat Area min. mm	50
Diameter of Flat Area max. mm	57
Thickness at center min. mm	33
Thickness at center max. mm	39
Thickness of Rim at 6 mm from edge, min. mm	10
Thickness of Rim at 6 mm from edge, max. mm	13

Reason: The WMA rules change for 2014 that increased the allowable maximum diameter of the 750 gram discus was not wholly complete and this amendment completes the change to make the discus in line with all commercially produced 750 gram discus.

Serge Beckers, explained that this as not a real change but an addition to the present discus technical rules, and the specifications are already in use.

ACCEPTED

NON STADIA IAAF EXEMPTIONS

IAAF Section VII - Race Walking RULE 230

Brian Keaveney was asked to go through the IAAF Exceptions and pointed out that this was something that had always been done previously by the Stadia Non-Stadia VP's to Council and now they will be put in the Competition Rules. So these are for **Information**.

Question. Norway asked about the age limits of the Mountain running and should we accept the exemptions - we accept the age limit of 79. The president explained that this age limit was made with the WMRA from experience over many championships and we accept their rules.

Distances

1. Refer to WMA Handbook.

Judging

2. New Rule.

3 (d) Masters: All judges must be registered RW Judges. At WMA Championships RW judges shall include members of the WMA RW Panel.

Question: GB/NI asked about the Minimum standard of the judges, and different country have different standard of qualification from lower to higher levels, so not all registered judges should be able to judge in a WMA Championship.

Brian Keaveney explained that the text of the rule may not be exact and can be changed, but from the IAAF Rules we need to have a high level of judges foremost of the championships, and most countries would not be able to run races with that level of officials such high level officials, but yes they all have to be registers race walk judges and WMA does have a Panel of judges.

Chief Judge

4. (f) For all Rule 1.1(a) competitions, hand held computer devices with transmission capability must be used by the judges to communicate all Red Cards to the Recorder and the Posting Board(s).

In Masters events Hand held transmission devises are not used.

Add Exception

Race Conduct

12. In events of **10km** or more, an athlete may leave the marked course With the permission and under the supervision of an official, provided that by going off course he does not shorten the distance to be covered.

Section VIII - Road Races

RULE 240

1. Refer to WMA Handbook.

Race Conduct

Add new Rule. Rule 240 (10) Masters

Pacing by athletes or other persons not in the race is not allowed. It is recommended that before the beginning of the race that all athletes are made aware of this rule. This is considered a warning. Athletes may and can be given a red card for this infraction during or after the race.

Section IX - CROSS-Country, Mountain.

RULE 250

Cross-Country Races. Distances. Masters:

MEN AND WOMEN age groups 70 6KM

All other age groups to be 8KM

From 1st January 2018.

Drinking / Sponging and Refreshment Stations

7. Water and other suitable refreshments shall be available at the start and finish of all races. For all events, a drinking / sponging station shall be provided every lap.

Race Conduct

Add new Rule (9) Masters

Pacing by athletes or other persons not in the race is not allowed. It is recommended that before the beginning of the race that all athletes are made aware of this rule. This is considered a warning. Athletes may and can be given a red card for this infraction during or after the race.

RULE 251

Mountain Races

Race Conduct

Add New Rule 7. Masters:

The WMA has an agreement with the WMRA to follow the rules they have established. A Technical Delegate and Safety Officer who may be the same person attends WMRA Masters Competitions.

15. 13.30 Lunch

16. 15:00 Status Report Indoor Championship 2017, Daegu, South Korea

The Vice Mayor of Daegu gave an opening message with thanks to the President and the delegates and a welcome to Daegu in 2017. Daegu is the 3rd largest city in Korea and mixes the modern and contemporary cultures as a way of life. The Daegu city was built through industrialisation and is a place of global enterprise, the home of Samsung. He outlined several events that Daegu City had previously organised and explained that for the WMA Indoor championships they are working very hard and putting a lot of effort into making an excellent championships. They have sent dedicated members to the Budapest, Lyon and now the Perth championships, so that they can learn about

the preparation for the championships. The Daegu City are fully backing the championships, and believe that the championships will be a catalyst for the promotion of masters in Korea and we look forward to all athletes from all over the world and wish for a successful championships.

Heather Jung, showed a short video and then the presentation, outlining events that Daegu has hosted including the Annual Daegu Half Marathon, then the facilities; 2 the indoor arenas and a stadium, the Road Race Walk, the Road Run and the Cross Country venues. Daegu; by flight and train. From the town to the facilities and around Daegu City will be with shuttle buses and for metro there will be a transport pass. Accommodation; budget hotels from \$45.00, average around \$100.00. Restaurants, eating houses, cafes. Daegu is well known as a city of fashion. Social activities, city tours programs are available and can be booked easily.

There will be interpreters at the shuttle services area. Each day athletes will be able to enjoy Korean culture around the city, free. Finally she asked the Asian athletes for their support in Daegu.

The president explained that the WMA Solicitors dealing with the transition asked that the Online registration wait until after the transition from the old to the new WMA.

Questions: USA the situation with Visas? Answer. There are visa waivers for around 116 countries and for the athletes the City Government will support to get the visas easily, through the LOC visa contact.

17. 15:20 Status Report Stadia Championship 2018, Malaga, Spain

Manuel Cortes on behalf of RFEA, showed a PowerPoint to explain the setup of the 2018 championships. Malaga is in the South Of Spain. There are 3 main stadiums around Malaga and as 4th back up in Torremolinos, there is no more than 5km between the 3 main stadiums. The half Marathon will be a flat course from the stadium to the city centre return (2 laps). The Road Race Walk will be a 1km flat course by the main stadium. The cross country will be in Torremolinos. Dates will be September 5-16. He outlined a proposed event program (to be looked at by WMA). There will be free transportation on the trams for the athletes; there is also a good transportation system on the buses, also free. There are more than 4000 rooms presently booked (showed some prices for 6 nights).

Finally he hoped that the stay in Malaga will be good and they are waiting for everyone in 2018.

Questions: Hotel prices? More information can be found at the booth in the main stadium.

18. 15:40 Bid presentations and voting for future WMA World championship:

WMA Indoor 2019. Torun. POL,

Torun bid team; Mr Lukasz Szarszewski. Mrs Mariola Soczynska, Torun Municipality, Waclaw Krankowski, PMA President. Jerzy Krauze, Vice President EMA.

They opened with a short film of Torun, which is one of the oldest towns in Poland. The Home on Nicholaus Copernicus, Torun has many museums and art galleries that tells the history of the town. Torun is easily reached by road, rail and air and is a very busy tourist destination. Torun has many cheap accommodation, restaurants, cafes and other eating places and local delicacies as well as the "famous Torun Ginger Bread". Average meals can be

as little as €8.00 to €15.00; there is a wide range of music, concerts and cultural events in Torun on a regular basis. Thanks to its sporting infrastructure there are more than 50 sports taking part in Torun the most popular being Basketball, Hockey and Ice Hockey and of course athletics. With the modern athletics hall they have had many prestigious National and International events, it is one of the best facilities in Europe, with its multi-functional setup, and variation of sports that are available at any one time. For the athletics 6 lane 200m Oval, 8 lanes inner straight and full field event facilities. In 2015 Torun held the European Masters Indoor Athletics Championships, with 2200 athletes from 37 Countries. Many World and European Records were set. And all the athletes were happy with the facilities. There are other facilities that complement the indoor arena, with the main athletics stadium only a short walk away and a hall for the weight throws all within 500m. The Cross Country Route is located next to the sports hall. The Road Walks take part in the front of the arena. During the Polish Veterans Championships the facilities were checked by the WMA President and his team and they gave a very positive assessment. The recommended dates are 24 to 30 March 2019.

The main Airports to Torun are Bydgoszcz, Warsaw and Gdansk, there are rail connections from them all to Torun. Some of the most important things concerning Torun: 800years of tradition. UNESCO World heritage site. Seven wonders of Poland. 30 most beautiful places in the world, beauty and magic, science, astronomy and Nicolaus Copernicus, culture, sacrum, gingerbread. One of the most popular cities in Poland, over 2,000,000 tourists in 2015. Very good public transport system (will be free for the championships). Many taxis, Hotels from 4 stars down to economy hotels and special offers have been made for the athletes. Many different foods in Poland. There will be a special "Visa" zone to help those that need a visa to arrange with the government. Temperature in March should be around 13 to 18 degrees. 438 parking places at the arena, and 224 inside the underground car park. Capacity of the arena 7500, 230 VIPs seats and 60 in the sky boxes. 200m track, 8 lane 60m, Long/triple jumps, High Jump, Pole vault, Shot put. Warm up areas and all athletics equipment. Hotel with 28 rooms, restaurants and cafés. Other facilities already mentioned in the Video as above. LOC proposed Schedule to be looked at by WMA.

Torun was awarded the 2019 WMA Indoor Championship by a show of hands:
UNANIMOUSLY

Stadia Championship 2020

- Gothenburg, Sweden.
- Toronto, Canada.

The Toronto team: John Craig Chairman of the LOC, introduced some of the Toronto team; Paul Osland, President of Canadian Masters, two Olympic Athletes, two City of Toronto employees, one in the Mayors office, one Tourism employee and two Chair persons from the Canadian masters - so they have the expertise within the team to help organise the championships. He gave a brief outline of Toronto; a city of over 5 million people, but do not think about cars, traffic and pollution, that is not Toronto; imagine ice cream on the side walk outside the city hall. Imagine children of all nations playing games, lovers dancing at the jazz festival and walking hand in hand through the ravines, salmon running north through the very centre of the city on the lake and steams, the saltiness of Canadian bacon on the market and the breathtaking beauty of the CN tower, that is Toronto. Toronto is likely the safest city in Canada and among the safest in the world by any measure. One of the most prosperous cities in the world and enjoys a very

reasonable cost of living. Lots of live music and theatre, films, cuisine, whatever you would like to do you can do it well in Toronto. He and his colleagues have worked as volunteers just so that they can be here today to share their good fortune with all of those here, so they invite you all to Toronto and ask that when you arrive in return you share with us your culture your courage your dreams and your search for excellence; we invite you to Toronto.

A short video from the Chairman of the Economic development and Culture committee, who fully backs the event and had promised whatever help the IOC needed during the WMA bid visit.

Paul Osland outlined the facilities. Varsity Stadium and Arena in downtown Toronto will be the main hub. Has nearby 200m warm up track, all throws and jump facilities (no long throws in the track centre). Bi- Directional jumps runways. 2 high jumps. 2 pole vaults Seating for 5000, some covered spectator stands. Scoreboard. Also an additional warm up track 800m away.

Toronto Track and Field Centre and York Lions Stadium, 30 minutes direct train from the Varsity stadium and excellent 2 stadiums complete with 200m indoor warm up 100m straight in the warm up and full track and field facilities in the warm up arena.

York Stadium Mondo track, 8 lane 400m 9 lanes straight. 2 Simultaneous Bi- Directional jumps runways. 2 high jumps. 2 pole vaults. Scoreboard. Spectator seating, meeting rooms, offices, changing facilities. Broadcasting facilities,

Toronto Track and Field Centre. Mondo 8 lane 400m 2 Simultaneous Bi- Directional jumps runways. 2 high jumps. 1 pole vault. Scoreboard. Spectator seating, meeting rooms, offices, changing facilities within the warm up centre.

The Road walks and the Cross Country will take place at the Centennial Park, which has 1-2k laps for the Cross country. The walk is a 2km loop on a flat traffic free road.

The half Marathon will be held on Toronto Island, a flat traffic free route, transport by taking the ferry to the Island from the Toronto waterfront, has showers, changing and toilet facilities.

Transport; transport passes will be given to all accredited persons, all venues are reachable by the local trains, buses and streetcars. A ferry to the Island and buses for the Cross country and road Walks from the train station to the courses. Pearson International Airport is a busy International gateway with over 1100 international and domestic flight daily. There is a fast train service to the centre of Toronto, or 30 minutes by car or taxi.

Kate talked about the Cuisine. Toronto has over 900 restaurants with many varieties and very good prices starting from around \$12.00 CAD for a good meal.

Toronto is a clean safe and interesting place to visit, with numerous tourist attractions. Also many sports teams. Toronto has lots of places to visit and also the Niagara falls (1 hours drive).

Accommodation, Kate explained Toronto is one of the most visited city in the world. Many cultures, with many different cuisines and Canadians know how to give a party. The Toronto Caribbean festival will be just after the WMA

championships in 2020, so athletes and supporters can celebrate after the competition. There will be a large variety of accommodation available with over 40,000 rooms in downtown Toronto and 18,000 outside the main centre. With Dormitories starting from around \$37,00 CAD and \$66.00 CAD in hotels "Per person" Toronto will be affordable for all athletes.

John Craig finished on the note; WMA athletes are explorers, exploring the world and their limits in sport, that's why you are here for these championships. In 2015 the championships were in Lyon France, in 2018 you return to Europe in Malaga, Spain, in 2019 the championship will be in Poland; we are confident with our current exchange rate if you include travel, food and accommodation it is no more expensive to come to Toronto than to stay in Europe, so in 2020 we invite you to explore once again "Come to Toronto you will be glad you did" thank you.

Questions: Austria, How far are the stadiums away from each other? A: 25 minutes journey from the Varsity to the York Complex where there are two stadiums together.

The dates are 21st July to the 1st August.

Q: Finland: Main stadium? A: This will be the York Stadium; there is no throw in the centre of the Varsity Stadium.

Australia: The field eventers are usually left out when it comes to seating and spectating, can you give some idea on this? A: both stadiums with the throw events have plenty of seating so spectators will have no trouble seeing.

Q: Philippines: In Perth athletes and spectators (accompanying Persons) have transport passes, will this be the same in Toronto? A: they will be working with the government to sort this out so that there will be no cost to the visitors. Doug Smith finished with a message for them all to sample a Toronto beer after their competition in 2020.

Gothenburg, Sweden.

Max MARKUSSON. Director of Events Gothenburg City presented the members of the team: MRS Lisa Jahrsten, Swedish Honorary Council in Perth. Stefan OLSSON Secretary general Swedish Athletics. DO EDSBERGER, Director Gothenburg Athletics. Niklas WALLENLIND, (Olympic 400m hurdler) Sports Director, Gothenburg Athletics. ÅSA BORVÉN, project manager, Gothenburg City. Charlotta Frantzich, project manager, Ullevi Arena. Kajsa Bergqvist, Olympian, world indoor record holder and High jump Legend.

A short video from Christian Olsson triple jump legend was shown welcoming all to his home stadium Ullevi, and home town Gothenburg. Kajsa continued with a short outline of her career and some of the things that athletes want for a competition, four things in general. 1) Everything well organised and organisers that know about athletics, 2) things to be close safe and affordable so there are no hassles, 3) a great atmosphere in the city, and a high visibility for the competition, 4) and of course when you go to a country you want to see something new, and I will show you that Gothenburg can do all of this for you in 2010. Their LOC has done many successful World and International championships, 1995, 2006, 2013, and has good local communication between the Government, City and athletics organisations and companies which helps to make competitions smooth. Gothenburg has all the required facilities you can ask for and Gothenburg is a clean, safe and fun city and everyone speaks English. A compact city centre with the stadiums and courses and hotels are very close within 30 minutes walk, and

accommodation for over 10,000 hotel rooms from 5 stars to more affordable budget options. No more than 15 minutes between venues by public transport or the shuttles. Gothenburg also has 1000 bicycles that can be used free of charge. The main venue will be in Slottsskogvallen Park, a Stadium where 28 world records have been set, the start of the Gothenburg Half Marathon with 66000 people each year is run from the venue. The Road Walks, Cross Country and Road Races will also be starting from there. They have the "House of Athletics" 200m Indoor arena with warm up, offices, meeting rooms. A large TIC area with catering, food and sales outlets (beer as well) is next to the athletics hall. A separate warm ups area covered warm ups facilities in-between the buildings 50 metres from the stadium. The Ullevi stadium, where Jonathan Edwards set his triple jump record, is the 2nd stadium, with a warm up area just outside of the track across the road. The 3rd stadium is the ABY Athletic track mainly for training and some of the "over flow events and a 4th stadium close by is also available. Shops open late till 11pm. 8000 rooms have already been block booked and all the needs of any groups can be met separately. Prices start from \$30.00 and include breakfast, wifi and all taxes, no extra taxes are added which make Gothenburg a very affordable city. The city will be having a special city card for the athletes for the parks, museums and other attractions. It easy to travel to other places, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Fjords in Norway or the midnight sun in the very north. The proposed dates (12-23 August) will be at the time of the Gothenburg City Cultural festival with over 1000 activities, which will give a great atmosphere to the event and the city. Gothenburg want to take the event to the next level by creating a legacy that will live on in the next years, in creating better public health and inspiring more people regardless of age. We will do "streaming" like in Perth so people all over the world can watch the championships. They will have education programs to train officials, a new generation. I said at the beginning there were four things that every destination should provide and should Gothenburg get the opportunity we will show you that we can live up to them all. Imagine a joint opening ceremony at the top of the Boulevard in the middle of the city; we will create a massive impact in ability that no marketing budget can ever afford.

We are committed we have the experience and we are ready to organise a championship that will be remembered not only for the medals, but also for all the great moments we are going to create together. In finishing Kajah said that Gothenburg is a lovely city but also a city that really loves athletics, and should they get the championships we will see her compete again and Gothenburg welcomes you.

Question: USA the dates? Answer: 12th-23rd August

Q: Singapore: transportation? A: everything within the city will be free, trams buses, shuttles and bikes.

VOTING

Toronto 68

Gothenburg 57

Toronto was awarded the 2020 WMA Stadia Championship.

The president thanked the bidders for two excellent presentations and hoped that Gothenburg would consider another bid in 2018.

A motion from USA to destroy the ballot papers, 2nd Canada.

The President thanked the delegates for their diligence and acceptance of the changes to the agenda and noted how well we got through the assembly matters. Thanks to the members leaving council Serge Beckers and Winston Thomas and we wish them the best for the future.

20. 16.50 Date of the next GA, Malaga, Spain. Will be decided at the Council meeting in Malaga. 9th or 12th August

21. 17.00 Closing of the General Assembly

The meeting closed at 17.00

SIGNATORIES

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Date: 23.12.2016