

MINUTES OF ANNUAL DELEGATES' MEETING

55th Annual Delegates' Meeting of Badminton Europe Confederation

Held on the 9th of April 2022 at 10.00 CEST at the Grand Excelsior Hotel in Valletta, Malta.

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1. President's opening remarks

BEC President Peter Tarcala (PT) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in Valletta, Malta, and thanked all the participants for their attendance to this first physical ADM after 2 years of online meetings due to the global Covid-19 pandemic.

PT thanked the host, Badminton Association of Malta, represented by their President, Owen Grech, and their General Secretary, Jo'Anne Cassar.

A special welcome was extended to BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer, for his presence here in Malta and to the other guests and partners attending this ADM.

1.2. Appointment of scrutineers

Alberto Miglietta and Andreja Turk were appointed scrutineers.

1.3. Attendance

35 out of 53 possible voting Members had registered and were represented at the meeting (see attendance list attached).

For the elections, it meant that 18 votes would qualify for simple majority and 24 votes for 2/3 majority.

1.4. To confirm that the Meeting has been properly convened and to approve the agenda

PT informed the Delegates that the meeting papers were circulated to Members via email on the 23rd of February 2022, which respected BEC regulations.

It was confirmed that the meeting was properly convened, and the distributed agenda was approved.

2. TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE CONFEDERATION

2.1. The President's review - page 10

PT reviewed the year 2021, dealing with the effects of the pandemic, the European Mixed Team Championships in Vantaa, Finland and the European Championships in Kyiv, Ukraine. Those important BEC events were successfully delivered, even though with strict Covid restrictions and without spectators attending.

PT presented the main results of 2021 in connection with the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. Viktor Axelsen from Denmark made history as being the first European men's singles winner since 1996 where Poul-Erik Høyer won in Atlanta.

During 2021, PT visited several Members in the Balkan region – that being Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. In the same connection PT also visited the Hungarian Badminton Federation.

PT also attended the French Open in Paris, where he had the opportunity of meeting with the new President of the French Badminton Federation.

Then, PT attended the Commission meetings in Brussels, Belgium, where various interesting discussions were held for the future of our sport.

Finally, PT went to the World Championships in Huelva, Spain, and met with the new President of the Spanish Badminton Federation.

PT thanked all BEC Members and BEC Board Members for their work and commitment.

Last, PT thanked the Office and the General Secretary, Brian Agerbak (BA), for their continuous work towards the development of our sport.

There were no questions to the President's review from the meeting.

2.2. The General Secretary's report - page 12

General Secretary Brian Agerbak (BA) started by introducing the staff attending the meeting: Jimmy Andersen (Deputy General Secretary), Jacob Oehlenschlaeger (High Performance and Development Senior Manager), Andreja Turk (Finance & Administration Manager), Alan Raftery (Communication Officer), Justine Cammal (High Performance and Development Manager), Matthieu Hecker (Events Officer), Rafal Glinicki (Events Officer).

BA then took the meeting through his report. 2021 was another challenging year, filled with uncertainties. However, BA was overall very pleased with the level of activity organised and delivered during the year, that being both competitions, national events and development activities. BA was also very pleased with the Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) that we were able to sign with most of our Members.

BA was also looking forward to the new Advanced Coaching Education which is currently being developed with the support of Erasmus+.

Lastly, BA thanked the BEC Board of Directors and the staff for their continuous work.

There were no questions to the General Secretary's report from the meeting.

2.3. Report Chair of Athletes' Commission - page 14

As Kai Schäfer (KS) was not present at the meeting, PT read a short message on his behalf to the delegates. KS wished to thank all delegates and in general sent his best wishes to the entire European badminton community and to all Ukrainian friends.

Emma Zwiebler (EZ) reported briefly on the activities of the Commission on KS's behalf. She highlighted a couple of elements KS wished her to mention: KS addressed to the Board the topic

of sustainable development. Sustainability within sport in Europe is starting to become a common theme to be addressed.

There were no questions to the Athletes' Commission report from the meeting.

2.4. Report Chair of Administration Committee - page 16

As Mike Robinson (MR) could not be with us for the meeting, PT informed the assembly that the report would be presented by Sven Serré (SS).

SS reported briefly on the Committee's activities. Its work related mostly to Finance, HR and meeting activities.

There were no questions to the report from the meeting.

2.5. Report Chair of Business Committee - page 18

As Robbert de Kock (RdK) was not able to join the meeting in Malta, a short video was shared with the assembly to report on the Business Committee's activities. The Committee work includes commercial and communication matters. RdK thanked Andrej Pohar (AP) for his work on the communication part and the staff for their continuous work in that area.

RdK focused on the significant growth of BEC in communication numbers, especially on social media and on our streaming platform.

Regarding campaigns and communication activities, there was a very satisfying level of publications (articles), and the new digital magazine was successful. A photo sharing agreement was signed with many Members, making it possible to benefit from each other's tournament photos.

On the marketing side, RdK was happy to report that Yonex and RSL remained close partners for BEC different activities: Yonex on the events side and RSL on the development side.

Lastly, RdK reported on the continuous partnership with Sportradar as our media and data partner. The negotiation process is still ongoing regarding a new website and a new competition management tool.

There were no questions to the report from the meeting.

2.6. Report Chair of Development Committee - page 24

EZ took the meeting through the Development Committee's activities. EZ chose to highlight two key projects for the year 2021. Last year, BEC was able to kick start the Erasmus+ ADVANCED Coach Education project. The key aspect of this project is that it allows the coaches to develop their own coaching philosophy through online education and mentoring. EZ wished to thank BEC Members from the Netherlands, Germany and Scotland for their contribution to this project.

Regarding the MoUs, EZ thanked the Members for their commitment to the annual survey that BEC has been sending out for three years now. The MoUs are a natural evolution of this survey in order for BEC to identify key trends but also to collaborate even better with each and everyone of our Members.

Lastly, EZ reminded the assembly of the new structure implemented in 2021, which meant a lot of new topics for her and the Development Committee to work on. EZ thanked the BEC Development staff for their work.

There were no questions to the report from the meeting.

2.7. Report Chair of Events Committee - page 36

As Renna Unt (RU) was not able to join the meeting in Malta, she sent a short video to report on the Events Committee's activities in 2021.

RU took the meeting through the main event activities organised and delivered in 2021:

- Circuit tournaments. RU thanked all the Members for their involvement during the difficult times.
- Major events delivered: European Mixed Team Championships in Finland, European Championships in Ukraine and European U17 Championships in Slovenia. RU thanked these Members for the successful delivery of these events.
- Technical Officials education activities.

Lastly, RU thanked SS for his involvement within the Technical Officials Commission, all the Members from the Events Committee, and BEC Events staff for their good cooperation.

There were no questions to the report from the meeting.

2.8. Report Chair of Governance Committee - page 44

Andrej Pohar (AP) was asked to report on the activities of the Governance Committee. AP took the assembly through the main elements mentioned in the report. 2021 was a year of restructuring, with the implementation of the new Committees and new Commissions.

The main aim of the Governance Committee is to optimise BEC guidelines and policies. For the previous work done in that areas, AP thanked his predecessor, Mike Robinson.

AP also mentioned the adoption of a conflict of interest policy. It is very important that the relevant members, staff, managers declare their potential conflicts of interest and exclude themselves from all decision making if such a case arises.

Lastly, AP mentioned the next topic that needs to be taken on which is sustainability. This topic is becoming increasingly important, especially among our younger generations.

There were no questions to the report from the meeting.

2.9. Report Chair of International Committee - page 46

PT reported briefly on the International Committee's activities in 2021.

There were still not that many opportunities to meet our partners and Members. PT highlighted the importance of badminton's inclusion in the European Games in Poland in 2023 and the European Youth Olympic Festival in Slovakia in 2022.

PT also thanked BWF for their significant support to deliver their programmes and to better support our Members.

There were no questions to the report from the meeting.

3. CONSIDER AND APPROVE AUDITED ACCOUNTS 2021 - page 48

3.1. Income & Expenditure Account 2021 with comparison to Income & Expenditure account 2020 - page 53

As the Director of Finance MR was not able to join the assembly in Malta, BA reported on the financial report.

BA reported on the main consequences of tournaments cancellations due to Covid. BEC income was above 2,25 million €, which was 300,000€ less than budgeted.

BEC expenditure was just below 2 million €, which was 700,000 € less than budgeted. This was a result of prudent spending during a difficult and unsure time, but also due to the fact that many planned activities had to be cancelled.

Lastly, BA mentioned that the outstanding demands are low, the lowest they have ever been. BA thanked all BEC Members for paying on time, as well as Andreja Turk for her work in the finance area on a daily basis.

There were no questions to the report from the meeting.

3.2. Balance sheet per 31 December 2021 - page 57

BA briefly reported on the balance sheet for 2021.

There were no comments or questions from the meeting and the balance sheet was approved.

3.3. Auditor's Report 2021 - page 59

BA briefly reported and mentioned that the auditors provided BEC with a clean audit report.

There were no comments or questions from the meeting and the auditor's report was approved.

4. TO CONSIDER THE STRATEGIC PLAN - page

BA reminded the assembly that the Strategic Plan was adopted and introduced last year, in 2021 and it will run until 2024. No changes are to be brought to the Strategic Plan this year.

The Implementation Plan is more of an operational document, that may be amended to better adapt the action plan every year to achieve the objectives mentioned in the Strategic Plan.

There were no comments or questions from the meeting.

5. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR 2022 AND FINANCIAL FORECASTS FOR 2023 & 2024

BA presented the budget for 2022 to the assembly. A deficit of around 275.000€ is expected in 2022. BA also presented the forecasts of 2023 and 2024.

There were no comments or questions from the meeting.

6. PROPOSALS

6.1. To adopt changes to the BEC rules

PT introduced this point and mentioned to the assembly to refer to appendix 2 for the BEC Rules with tracked changes before handing over to AP.

AP explained that the Governance Committee recommended the Board of Directors to propose the BEC Rules changes to the Annual Delegates' Meeting. The Governance Committee had identified some necessary amendments to the BEC Rules which shall ensure consistency, gender neutrality and flexibility in the work of the Confederation.

Thus, the BEC Board of Directors proposes changes to the BEC Rules changes.

The following points were suggested to be modified:

1.1 Official abbreviations

10.2.J Clarify election for Athletes' Commission

19.2 Clarification around President being incapacitated

19.3 Clarification around Directors being incapacitated

19.4 How to deal with Board vacancies

19.5 Voting rights for appointed Directors

21.3 Clarification around BWF Vice-President for Europe being incapacitated

29.4 General Secretary authorisation to sign

These changes were proposed as a package and not as single items one-by-one. There were no comments or questions from the meeting.

The changes to the BEC rules were approved by the Meeting.

7. TO DETERMINE THE FEES FOR 2023

7.1. Unchanged administration fee

The Board of Directors proposed an unchanged administration fee unit of 210€.

There were no comments or questions from the meeting.

The administration fee for 2023 was approved.

7.2. Sanction fee for European U15 Championships

The Board of Directors proposed to introduce a sanction fee for the European U15 Championships with an amount of 1.000€.

There were no comments or questions from the meeting.

The sanction fee for the European U15 Championships was approved.

7.3. Maintain existing sanction fees

The Board of Directors proposed to maintain other existing sanction fees.

There were no comments or questions from the meeting.

The existing sanction fees were approved.

Before the next agenda point, PT informed the meeting that the coming year is a busy one – with a large amount of events coming up. Therefore, a number of videos were to be presented to the Meeting – the following events had videos displayed:

- 2022 European Championships, Madrid, Spain
- 2022 European Club Championships, Bialystok, Poland
- 2022 European Youth Olympic Festival, Banska Bystrica, Slovakia
- 2022 European Senior Championships, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2022 European Junior Championships, Belgrade, Serbia
- 2022 European U15 Championships, Ibiza, Spain
- 2022 Malta Future Series, Presented by Victor, Cospicua, Malta

PT thanked the organisers for sending in their videos – and he was looking forward to a busy 2022 with many exciting events all around Europe.

8. BOARD ELECTIONS

The CVs of the candidates were circulated to the Members together with the Annual Report.

8.1. Election of DIRECTOR OF FINANCE for the period 2022-2026

Badminton Nederland proposed the election of

Rémon VERBEEK (Badminton Nederland)

PT asked for the Delegates' approval to elect RV as Director of Finance for the period 2022-2026 by acclamation.

RV was elected by acclamation.

8.2. Election of 3 DIRECTORS for the period 2022-2026

PT shortly presented the candidates up for election or re-election and explained the voting procedure.

Each present candidate was invited to introduce themselves. Videos of candidates not present at the ADM would be displayed.

Sylvain BENAIN, nominated by the French Badminton Federation first entered the stage to present his candidature.

A video message from Oleksii DNIPROV, nominated by the Ukrainian Badminton Federation, was displayed to the Meeting.

A video message from Robbert de KOCK, nominated by Swiss Badminton, was displayed to the Meeting.

Jean-Marc SERFATY, nominated by the Israel Badminton Association, entered the stage to present his candidature.

A video message from Renna UNT, nominated by Badminton Estonia, was displayed to the Meeting.

PT again informed the Meeting about the voting procedure and then asked BA to call the Members forward to cast their vote.

While the votes were being counted, BA presented two important agreements for BEC that were to be signed.

First BA presented the signing of the extended event partnership between BEC and YONEX. YONEX will continue as event partner of BEC in the period 2023-2026. Boris Reichel came forward and signed the agreement on behalf of YONEX.

BA then presented the signing of a letter of intent between BEC and RSL for a partnership supporting BEC Development activities. Bo Wendel came forwards and signed the letter of intent on behalf of RSL. The agreement will commence in July 2022 and will run until June 2024.

The Scrutineers returned to the Meeting and handed over the results to PT.

PT informed the Meeting that 34 Members had voted, with the following results:

Sylvain BENAIN had received seven (7) votes

Oleksii DNIPROV had received twenty (20) votes

Robbert de KOCK had received twenty-one (21) votes

Jean-Marc SERFATY had received twenty-four (24) votes

Renna UNT had received thirty (30) votes

PT announced that Renna Unt, Jean-Marc Serfaty and Robbert de Kock were re-elected as BEC Directors for a new four-year period.

PT extended his congratulations to the elected BEC Board Members and thanked Sylvain Benain and Oleksii Dniprov for their interest and candidacy for the elections.

9. APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR FOR THE YEAR 2022

PT presented the proposal of **Grant Thornton (Denmark)** to be appointed as BEC auditors for 2022.

There were neither objections nor questions from the Meeting and the proposal was approved.

10. BWF MATTERS

PT reminded the assembly that the BWF Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place in Bangkok, Thailand on Saturday, 7th May 2022, at 18.00 local time (13.00 CET). A BWF Forum will also be organised on Friday, 6th May.

This year's BWF AGM will be a hybrid meeting, with both physical attendance and attendance online.

A BEC pre-meeting to the BWF AGM will be organised in Bangkok on Saturday, 7th May, at 10.00, local time.

11. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Vasyl Prodan and Luca Crippa from the Ukrainian Badminton Federation were invited to the stage. Vasyl Prodan and Luca Crippa spoke to Meeting, thanking the European Members for their support and cooperation, and they shared a message about cooperating within the badminton community to help Ukrainian players all over Europe.

As leaving the stage, Vasyl Prodan and Luca Crippa received standing ovation from the Assembly.

PT officially closed the meeting at 13.00 thanking everyone for their attendance.

For the meeting,
Justine Cammal
Development & High-Performance Manager
9 May 2022



Peter Tarcala
President



Brian Agerbak
General Secretary