



INTERNATIONAL SKI INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONALER SKILEHRERVERBAND
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES MONITEURS DE SKI

Minutes

**Meeting of the Steering Committee
01/2017**

January 17th, 2017

**Athenee Palace Hilton Bucharest
1-3 EPISCOPIEI ST., DISTRICT 1,
BUCHAREST, 010292, ROMANIA**



Present

President:	Riet Campell
Vice President Europe:	Vittorio Caffi
Vice President Pacific Area:	Yuichi Mabuchi
Interpreter:	Kiminobu Sugiyama
Treasurer:	Jiri Kotaska
General Secretary:	Hugo Reider
as the host:	Codru Popescu, Romanian Ski Instructors Association
Vice President America:	Martin Bacer
Advisor:	Valentin Kiedaisch
Advisor:	Dave Renouf

The three last listed members are not present, but will be brought into the Meeting via Skype, telephone or e-mail.

The Meeting commenced on January 17th, 2017, at 8:30am in the Seminar Room of the Athenee Palace Hilton Bucharest.

Regarding: the AGENDA of the Meeting:

The Agenda has been sent to all the members of the Steering Committee. As there are no requests for addenda or changes, the Agenda is considered adopted.

1. Welcome

President Campell greets the members of the Steering Committee who are present and thanks the host, Codru Popescu, for the excellent organisation of the Meeting. It is a shame that some members of the Steering Committee could not come, but they will be brought into the conversation if needed (live via Skype, telephone or e-mail).

The main goal of this meeting will be the visit to the Minister of Tourism, with whom the ISIA will talk about the importance of commercial ski schools and the necessity of state regulation.

Tomorrow, the visit to the largest ski school in Romania, located in Poiana Brașov, is on the programme.

2. Minutes of Meetings

Regarding the Minutes of the last Meeting, Japan wishes to rectify a point. In the report of Vice President Mabuchi, on page 2, it should be added that a Ski Instructor can also receive a work visa when it can be proven that they have effectively exercised their profession for 36 months.

3. Reports

President Campell reports that currently, the Chinese President is attending the World Economic Forum in Davos. In the side lines of the event, the development



of snow sports in China will also be addressed.

The ISIA will take part in the IVSI Congress in Hakuba, scheduled to take place from 19-26.03.2017, but contingent on the SIA being equally invited to take part.

Vice President Pacific Area, Yuichi Mabuchi:

There was very little snow at the beginning of the season, but now the quantities are enormous. The ski schools are very busy.

Until now, the SIA has not been invited to take part in the IVSI Congress.

The SIA continues to cultivate contacts with the Ski Club of Dalian in China. At the next meeting in Dalian, Mabuchi will present information about the founding of a Ski Instructors Association.

Japan has commenced a campaign in favour of the official SIA Ski Schools, with a poster that lists all the accredited Ski Schools.

Vice President Europe, Vittorio Caffi:

Russia sought to have its Ski Instructors receive the ISIA Stamp for its level B. The Technical Commission conducted an inspection of the training course in Stubai. The course was well organised, but the level of the candidates did not correspond. The Russian proposal to give the Stamp to the level B candidates who achieved a final mark of 4 or 5 is not supported by the Technical Commission. By all means, a separate grading structure should be created. At any rate, those accredited at level B cannot presently receive the ISIA Stamp.

Croatia sought to conduct an ISIA Test in Sexten in December already, but it did not take place.

Norway will conduct an ISIA Test, but, unfortunately, the date is conflicting with the World Championship.

Decision 1-1/17

Mid-February, the Vice President, Caffi, will represent the ISIA at the ISPO in Beijing and hold a conference there. The costs of the trip and the stay are being assumed by the ISPO.

Vice President America Martin Bacer:

Martin Bacer is being brought in via Skype. He gives a report about his meeting with the AMSI.

Treasurer Jiri Kotaska:

In Eastern Europe, there is currently more snow than there has been in a long time. The season is going well. The Czech Republic and Slovakia are actually ski countries. Everybody wants to and is capable of skiing. Some time ago, skiing was a compulsory subject within schools. This is now making a return. Development is going really well. We have guests from the former GDR, the Netherlands and Poland. But there are also guests coming from the Alpine countries and Great Britain.

Interski Czech Republic has entered a new phase. With the help of Fritz Mares, the organisation was adapted to follow the lines of Interski International.

We are also communicating well with the Ministry of Education.

While previously, the ski schools were almost solely instructing adults, they are now teaching almost exclusively children. The trend towards taking private lessons is growing.



Among the Ski Instructor candidates, only approximately 20% reach the B level; the A level Ski Instructors are almost all located abroad.

Codru Popescu – Romanian Ski Instructors Association:

There are almost one hundred small ski areas in Romania, but altogether they encompass some 250 kilometres of pistes; the largest covers some 20 kilometres of pistes. Skiing is an important economic activity, but its expense makes it available to a relatively small segment of the population. People believe that private lessons are superior; however, especially in the case of children, group lessons are more beneficial.

Ski Instructors are trained by the association and receive a state diploma. The training of trainers is conducted under the supervision of the Ski Association.

In Romania, skiing is situated within the public school system and everything operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Education.

In the last two years, checks were conducted by the mountain police in the ski areas. The qualifications of the Ski Instructors were examined, as were matters pertaining to taxation.

4. Information regarding INTERSKI

From 8-11.6.2017, the INTERSKI General Assembly will take place in Pamporovo. During that Assembly, the new procedures for the tendering of Interski Congresses are to be adopted.

The procedures are a full set of rules which aims to clarify everything to their smallest detail. In the view of the ISIA, they are too extensive, too precise. In the future, it would become impossible for anyone to conduct an Interski Congress.

5. ISIA Database

The ISIA Database works, in principle, but does not function the way it should. We have now been making financial commitments for seven years, but we still do not have a completed, ready product in our hands.

The Database is vital for the ISIA and is becoming more important by the day. The Ski Instructors with a Card and a Stamp must be listed and access must be easy.

The Database can no longer continue to exist in the manner in which it is presently configured.

By the end of September, already, there had been three meetings in Bern, where a precise programme was drawn up.

The Database must be configured for handling by the individual member associations. The ISIA Office is able to control the site and close it if necessary.

There are now three offers which are more or less ready:

German Schniedrig (CH), webmaster of Swiss Snowsports;

SnowRecruiter – Metka Lavric (SLO);

Mario Fabretto (I).

A Skype conference is set up with Metka Lavric and she explains once again, in detail, how she wants to rebuild the Database and what filters and search attributes it would have. It is a major project which can be completed by the end of March and will be fully functional at that time.

A lively discussion among the members of the Steering Committee follows and even other providers are being mentioned.



Finally, the following decision is reached:

Decision 2-1/17

The mandate for restructuring the ISIA Database is given to German Schniedrig (cost estimate 16,000.00 CHF; follow-up costs = zero). Condition: strict adherence to the completion deadline! The Database must be fully functional by the end of March 2017.

6. ISIA World Championship 2017 Samnaun, Switzerland

Samnaun would like to give, as a prize for the first three places, a wooden plaque with the coat of arms of Samnaun. The Steering Committee agrees with this proposal.

The ISIA must provide, at its own cost, all medals and trophies, as well as souvenir medals for all the participants.

Decision 3-1/17

The General Secretary is mandated to provide the cost estimates and to give the corresponding mandates for:

51 medals and 14 trophies for the winners, and approximately 150 souvenir medals for all the participants (dependent on the number of participants), as well as 5 souvenir plaques.

Jiri Kotaska will have the ISIA flags newly printed and will also provide cost estimates for trophies and glass memorabilia.

7 Situation of China's membership

The situation in China is known. According to the government plans, in the next six years leading to the Olympic Games of 2022, 300,000 new Ski Instructors are to be trained. By then, there should be some 300 million ski aficionados in China. The dash to China from European organisations is considerable. Ski Instructors Associations, ski schools and also individuals are trying to do business with China.

The ISIA will develop its cooperation with the Ski Association and try to create a central coordinating body. It is important that the Minimum Standard is upheld everywhere.

Decision 4-1/17

A communication is being sent to all ISIA Members, requesting that they inform the ISIA of their possible training projects in China. It is important that the Minimum Standard is upheld.

Candidates who complete training according to the ISIA Standard are to receive a diploma. The diplomas carry the ISIA logo, the insignia of the Chinese Ski Association and the insignia of the training organisation.

The diplomas are given by the Chinese Ski Association.

President Campell informs the Steering Committee that, currently, there are three Swiss Snowsports experts in China who are training thirty Children's Instructors.



Iran

Decision 5-1/17

The Steering Committee agrees to send three experts of the “Ecole Suisse de Ski Villars” to Iran to train ski and snowboard instructors. Attention should be brought to upholding the Minimum Standard. The costs will be assumed by the Iranian Ski Association.

Italy

There is a direct line of communication between the AMSI and the ISIA through Vice President Bacer. The AMSI would like to seek re-admission but, at the same time, is trying to negotiate special dispensations. However, there has been no written request to date.

The ISIA seeks to be an international association and would naturally like to encompass the ski countries that currently predominate. But not at any price! The By-laws must be accepted and respected.

Decision 6-1/17

As already determined in the mandate given to Martin Bacer on November 22nd in Samnaun, the conditions for a re-admission of the AMSI are once again established:

- 1) The AMSI must find an agreement with the Chamber of the Professional Ski Instructors of South Tyrol, which is currently a full member of the ISIA, whether through a common membership or separate memberships (precedents: International Association of Mountain Guides, UIAA).
- 2) The AMSI is to recognise the By-laws of the ISIA, respect the decisions taken by the association entities and communicate all the names of the Ski Instructors with the highest qualification to the ISIA and insert them in the Database.
- 3) One day before the election meeting, at the latest, the AMSI is to hand over an Excel file containing the data of all its Ski Instructors. The membership fees for all the Ski Instructors are to be paid, either through crediting the bank account of the ISIA at the rate of exchange valid on the day prior to the election or in cash.
- 4) The AMSI shall receive immediately the ISIA Stamps for 2017 for all its Ski Instructors.
- 5) The decision regarding a readmission and the reinstatement of all rights is to be approved by the Delegates' Meeting.

Dave Renouf expresses his opposition to point 1), which raises the spectre of a simultaneous membership of South Tyrol and Italy, as this, in his opinion, is against the By-laws, which allows only one membership per state.

General Secretary Hugo Reider refers to the fact that South Tyrol is an autonomous entity with its own legislation and its own administration.

Martin Bacer explains that the AMSI President, Bonelli, and the AMSI Vice President, Poncet, are solely waiting for the ISIA to decide whether they can re-enter and when they can receive the Stamps. The AMSI would find a solution with South Tyrol.

Observer Status

The Technical Commission will make contact with the Observer countries, Ukraine, Latvia, Macedonia and Albania and check to see if there have been any changes that would support an admission.



At 5pm, the Meeting was interrupted for the planned meeting with the Minister for Tourism:

The Minister Mircea-Titus Dobre welcomes the ISIA delegation and the representative of the Romanian Ski Instructor Association (Asociatia Monitorilor Profesionali de Schi Profesionisti din Romania, AMPSR), Codru Popescu, in his office. In a cordial atmosphere, the ISIA explains to the Minister how important it is, for the development of winter tourism, that Ski Instructor and the ski school activities fall under the remit of the tourism sector and that the Ski Instructor profession and ski school activities require state regulation.

The Minister, who has himself been skiing since the age of three, promises his support.

After the return to the hotel, the meeting was resumed.

8. Preparation of the Delegates' Meeting, Samnaun, April 2017

The Delegates' Meeting will be held on April 28th and April 29th, 2017. An initial communication has already been sent to members, but needs to be re-transmitted before January, 28th.

Agenda proposals by members must be received by the General Secretary by February, 28th. The agenda will be published approximately four weeks prior to the Delegates' Meeting, i.e. by March, 31st.

9. Preparation for the election of Members of the Steering Committee

Some of the members of the Steering Committee will seek re-election, on the condition that they are nominated by their own association.

It is considered as premature to already send a corresponding communication to the members.

General Secretary Reider and Valeria Cova, from the back-office, will prepare the electoral bulletins.

10. Organisation of the Commissions

Decision 7-1/17

The Commission "ISIA Ski Schools" is officially being founded. Valentin is entrusted with the presidency. The Commission serves to facilitate the exchange of opinions among ski schools and to create groups of expertise.

11. Dates of Meetings

Decision 8-1/17

Next Meeting of the Steering Committee: Samnaun, April 26th, at 1:00pm

12. Miscellaneous

The handling of the points "Serbia", "Portugal" and "Wales" is pending.



The question is being asked whether, in Austria, the Eurotest is part of the training, or whether it is conducted upon completion of the training. In Austria, is it possible to receive the Ski Instructor Diploma without passing the Eurotest?

Furthermore, we still have to reply to the request of Global Insurance. Is there an actual interest from the ISIA?

With no more requests to speak regarding this item and as there is nothing more to be discussed, the President adjourns the Meeting at 7:57pm.

Keeper of the Minutes
Hugo Reider, General Secretary

The President
Riet R. Campell