



INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting 2012

Final version 1.0 (January 4 2013)

**Held at Newgrange Hotel, Navan, Co. Meath, Ireland
Saturday November 17 and Sunday November 18 2012**

This record of the meeting has been compiled from notes made at the time by Frie Martin.

The sequence in which agenda items were treated was not the same as published in the original agenda. This record, however, follows the original agenda sequence.

Meeting opened : Saturday November 17 at 09:40

Present : Position / Country

IMGA officers :

Keith Martin	Chairman	
Clive Jones	Vice-Chairman	
Jens Martin	Development	(also representing Luxembourg)
Carol Jones	Communication	(Saturday only)

IMGA officers unable to attend :

Melanie Scott	Finance and Administration
Pola Preugel	Communication

International Representatives :

Rachel Otte	Austria
Sophie van de Calseyde	Belgium
Signe Sehested	Denmark
Isabelle Pierrard	France
Mark Devitt	Ireland
Jacques Cavé	Italy
Jens Martin	Luxembourg
Inger Hilmersen	Norway
Younes Ahlbom	Sweden
Philippe Gargallo	Switzerland
Paul Greiling	USA
John Griffiths	Wales

Unable to attend, but represented by proxy :

Jim Dunn	Canada
Sheila Peck	England
Brian Kennedy	Northern Ireland

Proxy holder :

Keith Martin
Nikki Carter
Colin Carson

Melanie Scott	Scotland	Davy Quinn
Ian Marr	South Africa	Jens Martin

Unable to attend, no proxy received :

Phil Logue	Australia
Philipp Preugel	Germany
Margaret Welsby	New Zealand

Others present :

Frie Martin	(notes of meeting)	
Julie Marsille	Belgium	
Quentin Voeltzel	France	
Jerome O'Connor	Ireland	
Mary Worth	MGAGB	(Sunday only)
Carol Prime	Northern Ireland	
Eivind Kjuus	Norway	(Saturday only)
Peter Dale	Referees	
Silvia Salaverri	Spain	(candidate members)
Javier Salaverri	Spain	(candidate members)
Deny Gargallo	Switzerland	
Liz Englert	USA	
Iain Hopkins	Wales	

1. Welcome by the Chairman and collection of proxy forms

The attendance list is shown above, with information on proxies, submitted in writing and recorded, from those members unable to attend.

Everyone was welcomed by the Chairman.

Some practical details were discussed, and the timetable for the meeting agreed.

It was also agreed that participants would be responsible for their own hotel costs, and that the costs of the meeting room would be met by IMGA.

MGA Ireland generously paid the costs of the lunch provided by the hotel on Saturday.

2. Review of Achievements over the Past Year

Actions agreed at the previous meeting :

One action remained outstanding from 2010, the upload of the IMGA promotional video to the website, but with the creation of a new video, this action was no longer required.

Actions completed :

- √ Follow up with Denmark concerning the World Team Championship 2011
- √ Coordination with Italy for the European Championship 2012 (see also point 27)
- √ Coordination with New Zealand for the World Team Championship 2013 (see also point 25)
- √ Prepare proposal for the future of the World Individual and Pairs Championships (point 20)
- √ Prepare proposal for the training and certification of referees (point 7)
- √ Prepare proposal for the selection of referees for IMGA sanctioned competitions (point 8)
- √ Updates to Competition Guidelines
- √ Creation of a new promotional video (details below)
- √ Prepare proposal for a procedure to regularly check members' compliance with membership requirements (see point 9)

- √ Update to procedures for the changes to representation rules
- √ New procedures created : review visits, and expense claims
- √ Website completely revised with a new (but similar) look-and-feel
- √ Competition results database continually updated
- √ Publication of newsletters
- √ Regular business : communication with members, etc.
- √ Fund raising and other sources of income for IMGA :

The 2011 decision to increase the sale price of Rule Books above the basic cost of printing in order to make a small profit, combined with unusually high sales and a very good price for printing, resulted in a significant additional income to IMGA.

It was also decided in 2011 to explore other possible sources for additional income, and so Keith and Frie Martin presented a proposal to sell IMGA souvenir merchandise.

Three samples (a key ring/bottle opener, a calculator, and a tape measure) displaying the IMGA logo were shown along with suggestions for other items of the same sort.

It was made clear that IMGA would not interfere in the market for event-specific items such as souvenir T-shirts, which is a significant source of income for event organisers.

[Decision : 01/12] To authorise an expenditure of up to EUR 500 to purchase a stock of IMGA souvenirs, and to sell them on-line and at competitions during 2013 as an experiment.

Action : Obtain the stock, organise the on-line shop and on-site sales at competitions, and to report back to the 2013 meeting (Keith and Frie Martin)

Unsuccessful actions :

- X Early return and repair of World Team Championship trophies (see also point 21)
- X Nomination of individuals as contact points for development in each member country

Action : Each member country to nominate a contact for the Development Officer (All members)

Outstanding actions :

- X Investigate the requirements for Alcohol Testing with reference to FEI regulations
- X Create a medical information file for each rider at IMGA sanctioned competitions.

Action : Follow up on these two points (Keith Martin, Paul Greiling)

Jens Martin presented the new IMGA promotional video, finance for which was approved last year. It was filmed during 2012 at the World Team Championship both at the David Broome Centre, and at Bulth Wells.

The editing and production of the final product was planned and supervised by Annie Kastrup, and the latest (but not yet final) version is now available on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2jMJUftBtKs&feature=youtu.be>

At the time of preparing this record of the meeting (a week after the meeting) there had already been over 10.000 hits on YouTube.

The video was played and everyone present was impressed with the quality and impact of the images and the sound track. John Griffiths publicly thanked Jens and Annie for all their work.

*Actions : 1) to complete the individual country versions of the video which will contain country-specific contact information at the end (Annie Kastrup).
2) To burn and package a stock of DVDs for distribution to members and prospective new members (Annie Kastrup and Jens Martin)*

3. Rules Committee Update

Since the issue of the current 2012 Rule Book, the Rules Committee has been working on the new Specification of Equipment. It is still a work in progress. When completed the committee will be able to return to its normal way of working in response to change requests from International Representatives.

Some comments on certain rules, and changes required were mentioned by members :

- The final pick up in Tool Box Scramble
- The requirement for all riders to be mounted at the start
- Problems in Pony Express
- A request for more descriptive rules, but it was agreed that this should be in a separate document (training manual ?) and not part of the Rule Book

There was also discussion on the structure and procedures of the Rules Committee.

Currently 3 of the 6 members of the committee are nominated by MGAGB – it was generally felt that all 6 should be elected by the International Representatives of IMGA. Currently 5 votes out of 6 are required to pass any changes – it was felt that perhaps a simple majority would be better.

There was a suggestion that a referee (possibly the “Chief Referee” – see point 32) should be part of the Rules Committee or an adviser to the committee.

Action : “Chief Referee” – see under point 32

The authority and mandate of the Rules Committee was questioned after some members objected to the removal of the Three Legged Sack Race from the 2012 Rule Book. It had been suggested that the Rules Committee had usurped this authority from the International Representatives.

Jens Marin explained that the current authority of the Rules Committee was inherited from MGAGB and the International Representatives had never had any authority over the rules.

He further explained the procedures and demonstrated how International Representatives are informed of the work of the Rules Committee and how they can provide their input to decisions.

[Decision : 02/12] To inform all International Representatives whenever updates are made on the Rules Committee page of the IMGA website.

The Rules Committee page already shows full details of all Change Request waiting, under consideration, or completed, and comments from International Representatives are requested.

Action : To send an e-mail notification whenever the Rules Committee page is updated (Keith Martin)

4. Financial Review 2012

(Presented by Jens Martin on behalf of Melanie Scott who could not be present.)

Despite the significant costs of the production of the new promotional video, printing costs of the 2012 Rule Book, and other significant expenses, IMGA income exceeded expenditure.

[Decision : 03/12] The financial statement was accepted (it is shown in Attachment 1)

Setting of the Affiliation Fee for 2013 was delayed until the end of the meeting, but it was then decided to maintain the current level of EUR 300 with no change to the terms and conditions.

[Decision : 04/12] No change to Affiliation Fees for 2013

Other points raised on the subject of Affiliation Fees were :

Allocation of emergency funds to help countries if unexpected circumstances arose (e.g. bad weather) during or leading up to the hosting of competitions – no decision was reached.

The suspension of voting rights for members benefitting from a reduction in their Affiliation Fees – this was not agreed.

The legal status of IMGA should be examined to see if there is any possibility to claim charity status in order to reduce or eliminate taxes.

Action : To investigate the possibilities of a change of tax status (Pola Preugel)

5. Election of IMGA Executive Officers and IMGA Rules Committee for the period 2012 – 2014

For each of the three positions for IMGA officers there was only a single candidate and so they were each elected unopposed :

Vice-Chairman : Clive Jones

Finance and Administration : Pola Preugel

Communication : Carol Jones

The election of three members of the Rules Committee was complicated by the late confirmation from two of the five candidates. The meeting was asked to decide whether the two late candidates should be allowed, but before a decision was made, one of them (Liz Englert) withdrew. It was then decided that the three undisputed candidates would be elected without any need for a ballot :

Jens Martin

Philippe Gargallo

Younes Ahlbom

6. IMGA relationship with FEI

Paul Greiling presented an update on negotiations between IMGA and FEI, which are progressing slowly, but are on course for Associated Membership.

Paul remains in contact with Harald Muller at the FEI.

There was some discussion about the advantages/disadvantages of FEI membership, but it remains IMGA policy to pursue this.

7. IMGA Referee Certification System

Research since the 2011 meeting has confirmed that training for referees differs widely between member countries, and may not exist at all in some.

Peter Dale presented a plan to standardise by introducing IMGA organised training and certification of referees.

The proposal is to start with a 2 day training course for chief referees, at the end of which they will be tested and (we hope) certified to show that they have passed at a certain level.

Requirements :

- a location
- some teams to assist with the practical aspects
- an agreed format
- agreed content and standards
- and of course some participants !

Peter proposed a small group of people to set up all of this with the intention of running the first course during 2013 :

Peter Dale
Jens Martin
Eiviind Kjuus
Mark Devitt / Quentin Voeltzel

The plans will be distributed to all International Representatives for approval before the first course goes ahead.

The format and structure of the course will be adjusted, if necessary, after the first course has been completed.

[Decision : 05/12] It was agreed that Peter Dale's plan should be implemented as soon as possible, and he should report back to the IMGA meeting in November 2013.

Action : The group to organise a pilot referee training and certification early in 2013 (Group)

8. Procedure for selecting referees for IMGA sanctioned events

Jens Martin presented a proposed procedure for the nomination of referees for IMGA sanctioned competitions.

The old procedure of a list of approved referees from which competition hosts could make their selection, was abandoned in 2011 in favour of a selection by the International Representatives at the annual IMGA meeting.

The new procedure formalises this. It is shown in Attachment 2.

[Decision : 06/12] The procedure for selection of referees was approved

Action : Add the new procedure to the IMGA Procedure Manual (Pola Preugel)

Further discussions arising from this subject concerned what to do when IMGA sanctioned competitions are run by other organisations, e.g. MGAGB and the World Individual and Pairs Championships.

[Decision : 07/12] All IMGA guidelines and procedures for organising competitions, selecting referees, and so on, must always be applied, no matter who may be the host.

[Decision : 08/12] If referees have already been selected for 2013 competitions then their appointments will be allowed to stand, but only if they attend and pass the referee certification course.

9. Procedure for checking compliance with membership criteria

Jens Martin presented a proposed procedure for the biennial checking of members' compliance with membership criteria. It is shown in Attachment 3.

[Decision : 09/12] The procedure for checking compliance with membership criteria was approved

Action : Add the new procedure to the IMGA Procedure Manual (Pola Preugel)

10. Assistant Referees

1) Why do Individual Championships have a reduced number of Assistant Referees ?

The question was discussed and the following decision made :

[Decision : 10/12] The Rule Book describes the requirement for Assistant Referees (AO3) and this does not need to be changed. Referees should not reduce the number below the level necessary to fully and correctly referee the games.

2) Do Assistant Referees always have to be members of their home country MGA ?

The question was discussed and the following decision made :

[Decision : 11/12] It was confirmed that all officials are required to be members of their home country MGA

11. Review of Height/Weight restrictions on riders and the enforcement of the guidelines

It is now several years since the Height/Weight Guidelines were agreed and introduced.

<http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/games/height-weight/index.html>

Peter Dale believes that they should now be more vigorously enforced. He emphasised several times that he is not really concerned with the borderline cases for which it may be argued that they fall just inside or just outside the acceptable limits, but he is concerned by the cases which clearly and obviously are a long way outside those limits.

[Decision : 12/12] The Height/Weight Guidelines should be enforced more strictly, the exact way of doing so to be left to the referee concerned.

Two further points arose from the discussion :

- The guidelines should refer to "Games Players" not "Riders" because there is a big difference !

Action : Modify the appropriate pages on the IMGA website (Keith Martin)

- All rules have to be enforced equally and IMGA needs to give more attention to the sanctions for non-compliance. In the arena the referee has the authority to eliminate teams/riders, but there are other rules (which also must be followed) which do not come under the referee's direct control.

Action : Check the Rule Book to ensure that specific sanctions are given for all infringements of the rules (Rules Committee)

12. Who is allowed in the arena ?

1) Should grooms be allowed in the arena during competitions ?

[Decision : 13/12] Grooms are **not** authorised to enter the arena during a competition.

2) Should trainers be allowed in Pairs and Individuals competitions ?

[Decision : 14/12] Trainers **are** to be allowed into the arena for Team, Pairs, and Individual competitions

Action : Modifications to the Rule Book (Rules Committee)

13. Dress code for arena party

It was discussed and agreed that the Rule Book section on Dress Guidelines for all officials should be reviewed and modified if necessary.

[Decision : 15/12] Subject referred to Rules Committee

Action : Review "Dress Guidelines" for officials (Rules Committee)

14. Potential changes to the rules regarding the use of reserve riders and ponies

There was a general feeling that the present rule on the subject of substitution/replacement of injured riders/ponies does not really work very well, but there was no real agreement on what changes would be required to improve the situation.

[Decision : 16/12] Subject referred to Rules Committee

Action : Review the rules on substitution of riders and ponies (Rules Committee)

15. The rising cost of IMGA Championship Events

There was a general discussion on the subject.

There were suggestions to cap the total allowed for entry fees, and/or to restrict the provision of social events and meals. The matter of incentives for early commitment and payment was raised, and there was an explanation of the decision in Wales in 2012 to spread the costs over the supporters as well as the participants.

No definite conclusions were reached, or decisions made.

16. GamesPro Version 4.0

Eivind Kjuus presented the latest version of GamesPro, software to assist in the organisation and running of Mounted Games competitions.

GamesPro website : <http://www.gamespro.org> (free download of the software)

Eivind's presentation can be accessed in Attachment 4.

Anyone who has questions, or suggestions for further developments of the software is invited to contact the author, Dag Hoffgaard (daghoff@gmail.com).

17. Licensing of international riders by IMGA

Isabelle Pierrard made a proposal for IMGA to issue some sort of International Mounted Games licence, or membership card, or permit.

The proposal was based on several examples of bad behaviour by visiting teams/riders with only limited possibilities to discipline them or apply sanctions.

An "international licence" which could be withdrawn if necessary, would provide some level of control. It would also provide an easy way to check the requirement that all riders should be members of their home MGA, avoiding the problem of non-members sometimes being allowed to participate.

No agreement was reached, but the subject will remain active during 2013 when a further proposal may be made.

Action : To investigate the possibilities for IMGA licensing of riders (Keith Martin)

18. Cooperation with Horseball

Keith Martin asked the opinion of the International Representatives on the subject of cooperation with Horseball, both on the organisational level (with reference to FEI), and on the practical level at competitions.

There was an unfavourable reaction to this, and so no further action will be taken.

19. Updates to the "How to Organise an IMGA Championship" Document

1) Updates already made to document after the 2011 meeting were published early in 2012

2) Video use and standards

There was a long discussion on the location of video equipment, its use, its quality, and when/if riders/ trainers could ask the referee to use video replay when making decisions.

[Decision : 17/12] At the 2013 World Championship in New Zealand the idea of a "video referee" will be tested. The exact details remain to be worked out but essentially a dedicated video referee will constantly monitor the activity in the arena and be available to the referee to answer any questions he may wish to ask. The video referee will not volunteer information to the referee unless asked to do so. The role is, therefore, slightly different from that of the Assistant Referees.

[Decision : 18/12] Also to be tested in New Zealand : Each team trainer will be allowed 1 appeal to the referee to refer to the video playback in each session. If the appeal turns out to be justified, then the right to a further appeal will remain.

[Decision : 19/12] The use of video to help the judge in calling finishing positions will not be changed.

Action : To formulate the exact nature of the trial to be run at the World Team Championship 2013 and to keep everyone informed (Jens Martin)

This subject will be discussed again at the 2013 meeting.

3) Running "small finals" concurrently

It was suggested that if the situation arises where there is a small number of teams in a final of one age group, and a similar situation in another age group (for example U14 C final has 3 teams, and U17 also has 3 teams in their C final) then they could compete together.

After a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages, it was decided not to take this proposal any further.

4) Further updates based on 2012's competitions

Action : To update the document to reflect all decisions and changes agreed at this meeting (Keith Martin)

20. Change of format for the World Individual (and Pairs) Championships

A proposal to change the structure and organisation of the World Individual and Pairs Championships was discussed at the 2011 meeting, but was not concluded because of lack of time.

In September 2012 a new (simplified) proposal was sent to all International Representatives to prepare them for further discussion at this meeting.

Keith Martin presented an attempt to firstly define the problems and then what to do to about them, but there were great differences of opinion and little progress was made (again).

There were, however, certain points which were agreed :

- If/when opening and closing ceremonies are introduced, then the strain on the ponies must be considered. In particular, a closing ceremony on foot would be better than mounted.
- The organisation of the championships must conform in all ways to the guidelines and requirements specified by IMGA.

Action : The "How to organise ..." document has to be updated to cover Individuals and Pairs in more detail. (Keith Martin)

- In particular, the selection of referees must conform with IMGA requirements and procedures.

It was specifically decided :

[Decision : 20/12] To await the results of the 2013 Individual Championship in Denmark, which will introduce several changes, and then to re-visit the subject next year.

[Decision : 21/12] To set up a small Working Group (Liz Englert, Nikki Carter, Jens Martin) to further study the subject.

Action : Organise the working group (Jens Martin)

21. Review of IMGA Championship Trophies

Are all the trophies currently presented at the World Team Championship still relevant ?

After discussion, it was decided to "streamline" the trophies based on the following considerations :

In the context of a World Championship, there should not be trophies specifically for European teams or Southern Hemisphere teams – they have their own regional championships for this. As a result of this :

[Decision : 22/12] The Duke of Wellington Cup will go to the European Championship, and the Masterton-Duvenage Trophy will go to the Southern Hemisphere Championship.

It is difficult to justify the awarding of trophies to the winners of the B final and the C final when higher placed teams in the A final receive no trophy at all.

[Decision : 23/12] Awarding the B and C final trophies will be discontinued.

[Decision : 24/12] To award the following trophies at the World Team Championship :

Winners : Churchill Cup (no change)
Reserve : Derbyshire Cup (no change)

Plus the Druro Cup for “outstanding horsemanship” to be decided by the referee, a representative of the host country, and an official of IMGA.

And the Ulster Cup goes to “Highest placed team from the original 6 nations”
(Note : there were 4 original nations, but one of them (GB) now competes as England, Scotland, and Wales, so the “original 4” has become the “original 6”.)

Action : Update Trophies page on the IMGA website (Keith Martin)

22. Review of the procedures for selecting hosts for championships and monitoring compliance with requirements

Keith Martin explained that in the past it had been IMGA policy to award the hosting of championships to member countries, but after that to leave them almost entirely alone to carry out the task. Assistance was always offered, but never forced on the hosts.

More recently IMGA has become more involved with the introduction of pre- and post-championship inspections and reports, and more and more cooperation between hosts and IMGA officials.

Should this trend continue, with IMGA becoming less “hands off” and more “hands on” during the 2½ years lead up to a championship ?

[Decision : 25/12] IMGA should continue the current trend towards deeper involvement in the preparation for IMGA sanctioned competitions.

23. Organisation of Mounted Games in Italy

Keith Martin briefly explained the structure and organisation of Mounted Games in Italy, and identified the main people involved.

The Italian Equestrian Federation (FISE) has recently elected a new president who appears to be far more interested in Mounted Games than her predecessor.

Jacques Cavé is optimistic that the new regime will not continue to cause the sort of problems encountered by the organisers of the 2012 European Championship,

24. Review of 2012 World Individual, Pairs and Team Championships

See attachment 5

25. Presentation of details for 2013 World Individual, Pairs and Team Championships

See attachment 6

Note : There was a discussion about ways to boost the number of teams for the World Team Championship (currently only 9 or 10 confirmed entries), but the NZ request to allow "combined" or "composite" teams was not allowed.

Action : To liaise with the organisers in NZ concerning the possibility of a parallel competition to attract more teams (Colin Carson and Keith Martin)

26. Appointment of hosts for 2015 World Individual, Pairs and Team Championships

Individual Championship : MGAGB's offer to host was accepted

Pairs Championship : MGAGB's offer to host was accepted

Team Championship :

No official offers had been received at the time of the meeting, but there were several expressions of interest from : France, USA, South Africa, and Luxembourg. These countries will consider their positions and make official offers (or not).

Action : To extend the deadline for offers and keep the membership of IMGA informed of progress (Pola Preugel)

27. Review of 2012 European Team and Individual Championships

See attachment 7

28. Presentation of details for 2013 European Team and Individual Championships

See attachment 8

29. Appointment of Host for 2015 European Team and Individual Championships

There was a single offer received, from France, and so France was selected for this championship in 2015.

See attachment 9

[Decision : 26/12] France is appointed host for the 2015 European Team and Individual Championships

30. Appointment of Host for 2015 Southern Hemisphere Team Championships

The location for this championship is shared on a rotational basis between Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

[Decision : 27/12] For 2015 the host country is confirmed as Australia.

31. Decision on Host and Date of 2013 IMGA Annual General Meeting

Two offers were made, from the USA and France, but without any details.

At this point in the meeting several International Representatives had already left, so this decision will be made by an e-mail vote when details are available.

Action : To obtain detailed offers from the USA and France, and organise an e-mail vote by all members (Pola Preugel)

32. Any other Business

1) Peter Dale circulated a proposal and questionnaire to all members about annual charitable contributions.

Action : To examine the results of the questionnaire and set up a system to select charities and collect donations (Peter Dale and Keith Martin)

2) Quentin Voeltzal suggested the introduction of an U17 group into the World Team Championship.

At this point in the meeting several International Representatives had already left, so this will be followed up by e-mail.

Action : To poll members on their reactions to Quentin's proposal (Keith Martin)

3) A question was raised about the appointment of a "Chief Referee" as an elected official of IMGA, and member or advisor to the Rules Committee.

It was noted that this, even if agreed in principle, would require significant changes to IMGA procedures and even the constitution.

As with the previous point, it was considered too important to be decided by the small number of International Representatives still present (there wouldn't be the necessary numbers to agree a change to the constitution) and so it was decided to poll all members by e-mail and then proceed depending upon the responses received.

Action : To follow up on this proposal, poll the members, and examine the changes which would be required, and implement it if agreed (Keith Martin)

4) It was requested that there should be more long-term cooperation between members when scheduling competitions to avoid clashes.

Meeting closed : Sunday November 18 at 15:20

Important notice concerning Spain

After closing the meeting, those officials of IMGA who were present (Keith Martin, Clive Jones, and Jens Martin) met with representatives of MGA Spain (Silvia and Javier Salaverri) to discuss their membership application.

All the membership requirements were checked and validated.

All that remains is for MGA Spain to formally request membership and IMGA to accept.

It is expected that Spain's membership will be confirmed from January 1 2013.

Attachments

Attachment 1	Financial Reports
Attachment 2	Procedure for selecting referees for IMGA sanctioned events
Attachment 3	Procedure for checking compliance with membership criteria
Attachment 4	GamesPro Version 4.0
Attachment 5	2012 World Individual, Pairs and Team Championships
Attachment 6	2013 World Individual, Pairs and Team Championships
Attachment 7	2012 European Team and Individual Championships
Attachment 8	2013 European Team and Individual Championships
Attachment 9	2015 European Team and Individual Championships

Attachment 1 : Financial Reports

International Mounted Games Association Bank Transactions for the period 20/11/11 – 15/11/12

Opening Balance : EUR 12,003.83

Transactions	Expenditure	Income
13/12/2011 IMGA 2011 Affiliation Fee - RSA		150.00
30/12/2011 Bank Charges	2.00	
12/01/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - AUS		289.45
13/01/2012 Payment to Keith Martin for IMGA Web Site Hosting	81.10	
16/01/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - SUI		291.00
20/01/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - FRA		300.00
24/01/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - NIR		300.00
25/01/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - BEL		300.00
02/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - AUT		150.00
13/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - SCO		300.00
20/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - ENG		300.00
27/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - IRE		300.00
29/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - CAN		143.80
29/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - USA		287.95
29/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - ITA		289.45
29/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - LUX		300.00
29/02/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - SWE		300.00
01/03/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - NZL		300.00
01/03/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - DEN		300.00
01/03/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - NOR		300.00
02/03/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - GER		289.45
05/03/2012 Payment to Keith Martin for 2012 IMGA Rule Book Printing	1,764.10	
05/03/2012 Payment to Keith Martin for IMGA Postage Charges	59.04	
05/03/2012 Payment to Keith Martin for IMGA Admin Charges	15.90	
05/03/2012 Payment to Keith Martin for IMGA Postage Charges	14.61	
08/03/2012 Payment to Jens Martin for IMGA Administration Expenses	43.80	
12/03/2012 IMGA 2012 Affiliation Fee - WAL		313.60
26/03/2012 Royalties		42.00
30/03/2012 Bank Charges	2.00	

International Mounted Games Association
Financial Summary for the period 20/11/11 – 15/11/12

Income

2011 Affiliation Fees	EUR	150.00
2012 Affiliation Fees	EUR	5,700.00
2012 Rule Book Sales	EUR	3,913.74
Late Payment Penalties	EUR	110.00
Royalties	EUR	42.00
Total:	EUR	9,915.74

Expenditure

Admin Expenses (Postage, Phone costs, Web Site etc.)	EUR	523.76
2012 IMGA Rule Book Printing	EUR	1,764.10
2011 IMGA Meeting Expenses	EUR	1,229.05
Bank & Paypal Charges	EUR	143.70
Trophies	EUR	
Flags	EUR	191.58
IMGA Review Visits Expenses	EUR	500.97
IMGA Promotional DVD	EUR	4,072.46
Total:	EUR	8,425.62

Opening Balance:	EUR	12,003.83
Plus Income:	EUR	9,915.74
Less Expenditure:	EUR	8,425.62
Closing Balance:	EUR	13,493.95

Attachment 2 : Procedure for selecting referees for IMGA sanctioned events

1. At the latest by the 30th September in the year before the competition takes place, the organisers in the host nation will provide the IMGA Finance and Administration Officer with all relevant details regarding their requirements for referees. This should include the competition venue, the dates a referee will be required, the number of referees required, what expenses and facilities will be covered by the organisers (travel, accommodation, food etc.).
2. As soon as possible after the 30th September, the IMGA Finance and Administration Officer will forward all information regarding referee requirements for all IMGA sanctioned competitions in the following year, to all IMGA International Representatives who, in turn, should forward the details on to any referees in their countries who may be interested. Furthermore, the same information will be posted on the IMGA website. This information will include a deadline date of 4 weeks prior to the date of the IMGA AGM in that year and any referees wishing to put their name forward for one or more of the available positions should do so in writing to the IMGA Finance and Administration officer before that date.
3. When the agenda for the IMGA AGM is circulated, it will include the names of all referees who have put their name forward for the IMGA sanctioned competitions the following year.
4. At the IMGA AGM, a vote by secret ballot will be carried out for each of the available positions. Only those international representatives whose countries are eligible to take part in the respective competition will be allowed to vote.
5. The results of which referee is chosen for which competition will be recorded in the IMGA AGM minutes and in addition the IMGA Finance and Administration officer will notify the relevant host countries in writing.

Notes:

In points 1, 2 and 5, for the moment it is stated that all info goes through the IMGA Finance and Administration officer. There is however currently also an on-going project to create an IMGA referee certification and assessment body. Once formalised it would make sense for this task to fall within that area instead.

Attachment 3 : Procedure for checking compliance with membership criteria

A checklist to be put together covering all the requirements members are expected to fulfil.

That checklist to be distributed to all members by the end of September (in odd numbered years) along with a request for it to be completed and returned along with supporting documentation (where required) by the 31st December of the same year to the IMGA Development Officer.

Failure to provide the correct documentation by the deadline or failure to comply with the criteria will result in the country in question not being invited to renew their IMGA membership in the following year (i.e. no request for an affiliation fee payment will be sent). Their membership will thereby be suspended.

If the documentation is submitted after the 31st December, a request for affiliation fee payment will be sent as soon as the documentation has been satisfactorily checked and payment of the affiliation fee will then automatically reactivate that country's membership.

Note that in such a case, all late payment fees will still apply from the beginning of the year onwards.

Attachment 4 : GamesPro Version 4.0

Download the file :

http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/documentation/docs/minutes_AGM_2012_GamesPro.pps

(PPS format)



Attachment 5 : 2012 World Individual, Pairs and Team Championships

Individual Championship (Mary Worth)

2012 WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
THE DAVID BROOME EVENT CENTRE, CHEPSTOW, WALES
THURSDAY 12 – SUNDAY 15 JULY 2011

The 2012 World Individual Championships again took place at the David Broome Event Centre on the all weather arena from Thursday 12th to Sunday 15th July inclusive. A total of 176 riders took part – an increase of 24 riders on the previous year. 11 nations were represented- the same as in 2011. The Under 12 and Under 17 age groups were run on Thursday 12th & Friday 13th with the Under 15 and the Open groups being run on Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th July.

As a change from previous years the structure of the prize money which has traditionally been given for this competition was changed. Instead of each rider in the final receiving prize money which was tiered from the winner down to the lowest placed finalist, a set figure was awarded to the winner in each group and then prize money was given to the winner of each game in the final in the same way that it is done at the European Individuals.

The Under 12 group had an entry of 35 riders -an increase of 9 over the previous year and all the entries came from GB riders. This age group is flourishing in MGAGB team competitions. The standard throughout the competition was excellent. The gold medal was won by Eleanor Wheeler (ENG) riding Rummie. Second was Isobel Yates (ENG) and third was John Evans (WAL).

The Under 14 age group had 33 entries. The entrants were all GB riders with the exception of Colin Verdelhan from France. The winner was Henry Goldhawk (ENG) riding Scorpio (A pony that has previously won the Under15 age group when ridden by Tom Leeson)-. Colin Verdelhan (FRA) was second and Lili Antcliff (WAL) was third.

Entries in the Under 17 group increased hugely with the change in age groups and 55 riders took part as opposed to 35 riders the previous year. England, France, Ireland, Northern Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland, USA and Wales being represented. The standard was incredibly high and the final resulted in an emotional victory for Mackenzie Taylor from the USA riding her incredibly fast pony, Inkspot. Mackenzie is the first rider from the States ever to take part in a World Individual final and her victory was thoroughly deserved and hugely popular. Mitchell Lyons (ENG) took second place and last year's Under 17 winner Sadie Lock (ENG) was third.

As always, the Open was hotly contested and proved to be a fabulous competition. A maximum of 56 riders took part with the following nations being represented: Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Ireland, Italy, Northern Ireland, New Zealand Scotland, Sweden, and Wales. The line up for the final was amazing with 2 ladies- Chloe Golding and Kate O Connor lining up alongside 5 of the best male riders in the world. It was a nail biting final as always with incredibly athletic and skilful riding and it resulted in a very popular win for Brian Kennedy (NIRE). Mark Devitt was second just 2 points behind Brian and Chloe Golding was 3rd - 1 point behind Mark.

Pairs Championship (Mary Worth)

WORLD PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS
NEWARK & NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SHOWGROUND
SEPTEMBER 15 & 16 2012

The 2012 World Pairs Championships saw 126 Pairs compete over the 2 days of the competition. There were 30 Mini Pairs, 40 Junior Pairs and 56 Open Pairs. The following countries were represented: Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Norway, Scotland, USA & Wales.

The competition ran well, despite the increased entry and time was at a premium but we managed to finish at a reasonable time on both days.

There were 30 pairs of Minis all of whom were from MGAGB. The competition was excellent and the standard of riding throughout was top class. The final produced a win for Wales in the shape of 10 year old Ben Hopkins partnered by 11 year old George Knight Eddins. It was a very close final with just 3 points separating 1st, 2nd & 3rd. Caroline Barbour & Eleanor Wheeler (ENG) were 2nd & John Evans (WAL) and Gwen Williams (WAL) were 3rd.

The Junior age group contained only 40 pairs this year with riders from Belgium, England, France, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, USA and Wales being represented. The final proved to be an extremely close affair resulting in a win for the reigning champions Sadie Lock (ENG) riding with Guy Gorvett (ENG). Last year's third place couple of Tom & Greg James moved up a place this year to finish 2nd and The England/USA pairing of Mitch Lyons and Mackenzie Taylor finished 3rd.

56 pairs contested the open and 13 nations were represented: Belgium, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Northern Ireland, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, USA & Wales. strong entry This year the final was made up 2 pairs from England, 2 Pairs from France, 1 pair from Ireland, and 3 mixed pairs- a Germany Luxembourg pairing, and Ireland/Northern Ireland pair, and the eventual winners representing England and Ireland, Danny Spencer and Mark Devitt who won by the largest margin ever seen at this competition. They amassed an amazing 71 points- a full 23 points ahead of their nearest rivals. It was an awe inspiring display of games riding from both of them. Second and 3rd places were decided by a runoff and Craig O Connor and Brian Kennedy took second place with Joe Garnett and James Reis 3rd.

The 2013 Championships will be held at Newark and Nottinghamshire Showground on September 14th & 15th 2013. 4 age groups will be run next year with an Under 14 group being introduced.

Team Championship (Peter Dale)

I usually write these reports as a personal review of what happened together with comments I have heard from other people. It may be a better idea to connect this report to the pre-competition inspection report which is hopefully developing into a "tick-list" e.g inspection list says "toilets – ok, one per twenty people"; and "catering – two meals per day provided for riders at marquee". The post – competition report could say "toilets – plenty provided but not kept clean"; "catering – riders complained not enough food and no choice". This system may be more objective and easier to compare from one event to another, more standardised.

Back to the old method! I arrived at the David Broome Centre, Chepstow on the Tuesday afternoon, July 17th 2012, for the briefing of the Championships – a good idea to hold the briefing early as it allows time for alterations. The weather had been atrocious at the venue for several weeks and did not improve until Thursday, July 19th. The riding surface was discussed and it was decided to compete on grass for the first session and then to reassess to see if a change to the all-weather surface would be necessary (in fact, on the Wednesday, it was the all-weather surface that was waterlogged and completely unrideable). Thankfully, the grass arena is very well drained and the competition could be held as planned. The surface was slightly slippery to start with but rapidly improved to a very good grass arena. France, in particular, expressed their disquiet regarding the foothold and would have preferred the competition to have been moved completely to the all-weather arena (normally very good surface but arena is small for individuals and very small for teams; with it so wet, I don't know if it would have been satisfactory). There were a few falls early on which may have been attributable to a wet surface but no more, in my opinion, than are often seen at competitions. I think the choice between grass and all-weather should be discussed – there are pros and cons and all-weather is not necessarily the answer to everyone's wishes. As far as the French pony's fall is concerned, it was, again in my opinion, an overreach rather than a surface problem.

The heats were completed with relatively few incidents. There were two accidents that could be considered serious – one rider fell and badly damaged an ankle and another was concussed. Thankfully, they are making good recoveries. The riders competed in an exemplary fashion with good manners and very few eliminations for technical faults. Strangely, four bridles came off during the heats, in spite of a tack inspection which revealed few faults – perhaps a more rigorous inspection is needed. There are a few riders who use bridles with a very loose throat lash. The equipment and arena party were excellent – one joust handle broke resulting in elimination (see later).

Perhaps the most contentious part was the ruling I gave for the Pony Express races – firstly, N.Ireland had an injured rider, reducing them to 4 riders. Their injured 5th rider was not able to return to be a postman and the trainer chose to continue the competition with 4 riders, bringing in an MGA member to be postman, as per the rule book. Then, the USA team had an injured rider, reducing them to 4 riders. They were confident that the injured rider would return later in the competition(as was the case). Therefore, technically, they still had five riders and could not bring in another member to be postman. They had to miss the Pony Express race and score zero. A lot of people questioned the ruling although nobody suggested another interpretation. Obviously, we don't want to encourage injured riders to take part in order to get the points. Could another MGA member have been postman and still the injured rider allowed back in when better? This would then allow all teams to do it because their 5th rider could just claim to be injured!!

Initially, six selected impartial assistant referees were utilised but, after the first session, this was increased to seven because people thought we were missing obstructions. Also, as declared in the briefing, I was to consult the video more frequently than in the past to try to confirm any contentious decisions. In fact there were very few indeed in the heats and the B and C finals. Each time that I checked an assistant referee's call, they were proved correct. At the very end, Belgium were eliminated for not using the point of the lance to knock down the joust target. The assistant referee was positive that the point had not been used and thought that it might even have been the horse's tail that caught the target. I accepted that decision which, incidentally, was subsequently confirmed by several of the arena party who were immediately adjacent to the incident – some Belgian supporters did not agree and were over-enthusiastic in their complaints.

The A final was held over 2 days at the Royal Welsh Show in Builth Wells – the weather was, by this time, hot and sunny and the special all-weather grass surface proved to be excellent with no falls. The games had to be completed within the allotted time and so video checks and discussions were very limited. On the first day, it was agreed that a debriefing would be held in the evening to discuss any events that people were unhappy with. Retrospective eliminations at this late stage would not be allowed if they hadn't been flagged previously by a referee but a reversal of an incorrect elimination and the return of points would be allowed. In the event, the first day ran very smoothly - a very close call for a USA rider not being in the saddle was confirmed on the video. The video also confirmed that I sent back Ireland for crossing the start line too early when in fact they hadn't. I apologised for this.

The second day proved more difficult because decisions couldn't be discussed later and had to be verified before the presentation. Being a very close final, there were several video checks necessary to confirm placings of teams. Sometimes, these checks were a couple of games behind leading to a delay in the confirmation of points scored. One elimination for a line fault was cancelled after checking the video. I decided to check the video when an assistant referee said there may have been an obstruction. The referee was quite a long way away but was at the end looking particularly for obstructions. I had only caught a glimpse of the event. Ireland complained loudly that they had been obstructed. Should I have checked the video or not?? Previously, I wouldn't because there was doubt but the briefing said I would. On the video, it was a clear obstruction but the points were again delayed for several games. Later, some teams told me they knew the correct points anyway whilst others were unhappy that it affected how they rode subsequently - ??? There was a problem with the penultimate game when 4 mugs were found to be missing. We had to play jousting first, leaving the 3 mug race as the final game of the championship. Then Germany's joust was faulty (target turning) and two lances were broken in the same position as in the heats. I decided not to eliminate and we couldn't re run because of time and we had no more lances. So, we finished with 3mug Race but the scores were confused – England were placed second when, in fact, they were second equal with Ireland. Scotland were placed 8th instead of 7th, N.Ireland being 8th. This all led to a meeting afterwards to correct the scores

and it was possible to hold a run-off which England won, confirming their second position. Scotland and N.Ireland graciously swapped rosettes!

The above problems could have been largely avoided if we had control over the arena and more time. Joust lances are proving to be a problem – again in the European Championships in Italy. People will have to decide if they want more video checks and whether they can be instigated following doubt.

Overall, the Championships were extremely well organised by Wales with excellent venues, facilities and catering. Some felt that prices were too high . I think there is a problem with holding the Championships at a major show – yes, you get wonderful crowds (65000 people attended the show on the Tuesday and 10-15000 watched our final !) but you have no control over the arena and decisions have to be hurried, leading to mistakes.

France were undoubtedly the best team in the final and the confusion over the last two games should not take anything away from their great win.

Attachment 6 : 2013 World Individual, Pairs and Team Championships

Individual Championship (Signe Sehested)



Website : <http://www.worldindividuals2013.dk/>

Presentation : Download the file :

http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/documentation/docs/minutes_AGM_2012_Individuals_Denmark.pdf

(PDF format)

Pairs Championship (Mary Worth)

September 14-15 2013 with all 4 age groups

Team Championship (Keith Martin on behalf of NZMGA)



NZMGA has set up a new dedicated website for this World Championship at <http://www.wtc2013.co.nz>

All information is available at this site.

Attachment 7 : 2012 European Team and Individual Championships

Report by Peter Dale

These individual and team championships were held at the Horsebridge Equestrian Centre in None, near Turin, Italy from Aug 2-5th 2012. As with Wales for the World Championships nine days previously, preparations of the arena had been considerably delayed earlier in the year by bad weather. The inspection by Phillippe Gargallo did however indicate that all would be ready on time.

I arrived on Tuesday July 31st and found the whole establishment to be well organised and very helpful. The number of participating teams was down by about 12 on recent championships – perhaps as a result of the huge expense of competing all over Europe combined with some apparent indecision regarding the organisation of the competition and the proximity to the recent World Championships. Briefing was largely uneventful, arena party was to be all Italian with each team adding one of their own if they wished and the assistant referees were selected from nominations from the competing countries.

The draw for one age group had been done not using the official MGA details – this resulted in an unfair group of heats for one team – thankfully, it was ameliorated by two teams swapping positions without the need for a new draw. This emphasises the need for everyone to use the official draw laid out in the MGA website.

The equipment was very good on the whole. The bending poles were a little small and flimsy and turned out to be too easily broken – however, they didn't break if you didn't hit them!! Perhaps the new specifications could include stronger poles. The joust lances broke too easily all at the same place – where previously there had been cross-pins to hold the funnels. The pins had been removed leaving holes and a weak point. This game places such huge forces on the equipment (lances and targets) that some better design is required. The Bank Race stands were extremely stable if we used the bases with four large spikes – but so stable that the upright would spring sideways if pulled without falling over. The recoil was then dangerous so heavy bases without spikes were used – they did have to be held for one session when it was very windy. The arena party worked extremely hard in very hot conditions and I don't think anyone could have done better. Some teams added their own but some didn't. A group of very fit French boys were also seconded into the arena party – they proved very useful in competitions in Wales previously. However, this time I felt that they were applying more zeal to the French equipment than others and they were not always present thus making the arena party unbalanced. I would not recommend this in future.

The arena was only just large enough and the surface was very hard. However, it "rode" very well and there were very few falls. The collecting ring area needed to be bigger. The wonderful new commentary box had been positioned off the start line which made judging tricky – you needed to be a contortionist! It should be emphasised to future events that the positioning on the start line for the video and the judge is the most important part of the marking out and should be done first.

A total of three referees were used for the individuals and teams – Clive Jones, Phillippe Permengeat and Peter Dale. We kept to the same age groups throughout to give consistency. We attempted to start in the same manner but there were some comments that each of us varied our starts at times. There is a big difference in interpretation between Phillippe and myself – he has done a lot of work in France developing written interpretations of different scenarios. My problem is they are not in the IMGA rule book. Should they be? I don't know. The book would be enormous. Could we have a rule something like "if a rider makes a mistake and genuinely attempts to correct it without gaining an undue advantage, they should not be eliminated". There are two examples: a. Rider loses a pony and the trainer catches it in the runout area and brings the pony back towards the rider, still within the runout area. I wouldn't eliminate, Phillippe would - the rule book says "no other rider may help..." but nothing about the trainer and "the pony may be caught by anyone in the arena but held outside the playing area". Whilst the trainer has helped by bringing the pony closer to the rider, has the rider gained an undue advantage? Of course, if another rider has lost a pony at the same time and hasn't had any help from the trainer, then the first rider has gained an advantage.

b. A rider loses a pony and drops the equipment e.g falling off whilst trying to vault in sock race. The French interpretation is that the rider must collect the pony first and then the sock even though the sock is by their feet – they must have hold of their pony when they pick up the dropped sock (they have already picked it up correctly once when they first tried to do the game). The natural reaction is to pick up the sock and then go and get the pony and then return to the point where it all went wrong. What if they fell off the pony and then dropped the sock? To undo this correctly, they should pick up the sock first, then collect the pony. If they drop the sock first, then fall off the pony, they should catch the pony first. All this means that the assistant referee has to see which happened first and remember it – very difficult.

Back to the competition – France felt that the ground was too hard and was causing their ponies` legs to swell. They requested more watering which was done but made little difference – their horse did not go lame and they won! Nobody else complained. France also felt that the water supply for the horses was inferior and that the medals received for winning were “Horsebridge “ medals rather than IMGA European Champion medals. Again, I heard no other similar complaints.

The competition was very well organised and ran smoothly and to time – always difficult with lots of teams and individuals. Some thunderstorms delayed proceedings later on but the last day was helped by the removal of the Individuals B Final – this gained an hour at the start of the day but unfortunately the reduced urgency meant that time was lost and the presentation was in fact an hour late.

From my point of view the facilities and hospitality were excellent – the final night`s gala was a bit delayed and protracted with the riders becoming restless but I haven`t heard any complaints.

Having tried selecting impartial assistant referees on several occasions now (this time they were “selected” from whoever came), it seems to work very well. I think it is time to draw up a list of people who referee well so that future competitions have a pool to choose from in advance. When a lot are required and their travel cannot be paid for e.g Europeans, they could be invited and perhaps be given some perks . As and when training is finalised, they can be asked to attend to confirm their status.

The First Aid service provided by Andy Gibson and colleagues was, as usual, exemplary.

Following on from the Worlds at Wales, a tack inspection in Italy again revealed some very loose throat lashes. At first, I thought some saddles were not full tree but in fact they were - they had reduced padding down the sides but this was acceptable. A couple of stirrup bars were in the closed position – seems to be a Scandinavian trait – can be very dangerous unless they have safety stirrups.

Lastly, a “favourite” topic of mine – there were at least two rider/pony combinations in the under 12 category that were unacceptable and should really have been stopped – it was a feature of their team and swapping ponies wouldn`t have helped much. My own view is that, if similar combinations appeared again, I would not allow them to compete. I can supply the team name if you wish. Teams need to be told that we are going to be harder in our decisions – the best way to enforce this is to have a limit that everybody understands and accepts. I think we have the limit adequately described in the graphs on the website. I suggest that next year the teams supply measurements with their entry form – height of pony and rider and weight of rider, including any combinations that the trainer may wish to use in different games. We will then select any combination at any time to be measured – whether they appear satisfactory or not. Put them on the graph and you have your result. It will stop unacceptable combinations, it will improve our database and knowledge of what is acceptable and it will improve our image. By measuring anyone at any time (in private , with responsible adult etc etc), we will not be seen to be picking on anyone.

As a follow on from this, there are a number of other rules that we are not enforcing very well e.g dress code in the arena – assistant referees should know in advance if they are going to be required in a competition so that they can bring correct shoes etc. A couple of hatbands were very narrow. If we are going to “pick on “ rider /pony combinations then we should be seen to be improving other areas too. This year we didn`t use a breathalyser and I don`t think we had many problems – there was one accusation in Italy which wasn`t confirmed and this shows that we still need to encompass the idea and be seen to do so.

Attachment 8 : 2013 European Team and Individual Championships



Website : <http://www.mgaireland.com/europeans-2013.html>

Presentation : Download the file :

http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/documentation/docs/minutes_AGM_2012_Euro_Ireland.pdf

(PDF format)

Attachment 9 : 2015 European Team and Individual Championships



Presentation : Download the file :

http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/documentation/docs/minutes_AGM_2012_Euro_France.pdf

(PDF format)