



INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION

Mid-year Meeting 2010

Final version (1 September 2010)

**Held at Centre sportif des Evaux
Onex, Geneva, Switzerland
Wednesday July 21, 2010**

This record of the meeting is compiled from notes taken by Frie Martin during the meeting.

Meeting opened : 19:00

International Representatives present :

Phil Logue	Australia
Pierre Marsille	Belgium
Signe Sehested	Denmark
Isabelle Pierrard	France
Mark Devitt	Ireland
Jacques Cavé	Italy
Frie Martin	Luxembourg
Philippe Gargallo	Switzerland

Standing in for their International Representatives :

Susanne Hügel	Germany
William McCoubrey	Northern Ireland
Steven Chorley	Scotland
Younes Ahlbom	Sweden
Liz Englert	USA
Alun Whitney	Wales

IMGA officials present :

Keith Martin	IMGA
Clive Jones	IMGA

Others present :

Ulrike Alexandersson	Agneta Kindholm
Sean Bource	Jerome O'Connor
Ditte Christensen	Philippe Permangeat
Aidan Hanlon	Andrea Piazza

Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone and explained that the meeting would be informal, with no important decisions taken. There were not many International Representatives present, but nevertheless it was an opportunity to exchange information and ideas.

Rule Books

The 2010 Rule Book contains several important updates.
The books are available from the IMGA online shop for EUR 3.00 per copy.
<http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/shopping/index.html>
Books were also available at the meeting.

Promotional DVD

The promotional DVD shown at the annual meeting in November last year is now available from Jim Dunn.
imga.development@mounted-games.org

Age Groups

The standard age groups agreed last year were successfully applied at the European Championship in Wales this year.
However, they were not applied by MGAGB for the World Individual Championship this year. Their reason for this was that they were not informed in time, but a firm commitment to use the new age groups in the future has been requested from the MGAGB Committee.

Height/Weight Tables

These tables, which show the acceptable limits of rider height and weight in relation with the height and stature of a pony, were not included in the 2010 Rule Book because they represent guidelines, not firm rules, and there was also an urgent deadline to meet for printing of the Rule Books.

The tables are, however, now almost ready for publication on the IMGA website. Peter Dale has reviewed and modified some of the contents of the original graphs, and the presentation has been simplified and converted to a tabular format.

All International Representatives will have the opportunity to examine the tables prior to publication.

Pre-Calculated Draws

At the European Championship in Wales this year, the old seeding system previously used to allocate teams to heats was replaced with a pre-calculated draw for each of the age groups.

There was some criticism of the draws because there wasn't an even distribution of the advantage of being in a heat with one less team.

For the World Championship, a draw was calculated using the GamesPro software created by Dag Hoffgard. From a "short list" of 10 million possible draws, the best one was selected on the basis of two rules :

1. Each team should play against each other team an equal number of times.
2. When there are unequal numbers in heats, then the advantage of being in a heat with one less team should be evenly distributed.

These rules represent an ideal situation, which will almost always be unattainable unless hundreds of sessions are run, but GamesPro searched for the draw which conformed closest to the rules.

There were no instances of teams drawn against each other in all 4 sessions, nor in any 3 of the sessions. Teams were mostly drawn against each other only once, but sometimes twice. There were a few instances of teams never being drawn against each other. The allocation of teams to "full heats" and "one team less" heats was even, with every team benefitting from the heats with one less team either 2 or 3 times in the 4 sessions.

The calculation of the draw was made on the basis of "team 1", "team 2", "team 3", etc., and the allocation of real teams to these numbers was to be done in a random way at the pre-competition briefing.

World Team Championship 2012

Following the withdrawal of Belgium's bid to host this event, due to problems with the provision of ponies for overseas teams, a request was made to all other member countries to find a new host.

Positive responses were received from both New Zealand and Italy. New Zealand subsequently decided to concentrate instead on 2013, but Italy was present to give further details of their proposal.

As there were not many International Representatives present, it was not appropriate to make such an important decision at the meeting. Details of Italy's proposal will be distributed to all International Representatives before the end of August. They are asked to consider this offer, to discuss it with their colleagues, and to inform the Chairman before the end of September whether or not they approve and agree that Italy should host the 2012 World Championship, in addition to the European Championship, which has already been agreed.

The meeting was closed at 19:45