



# INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION



JUNE 5, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance: Inga – Norway, Florence/Robin - Belgium, Andrea – Italy, Signe – Denmark, Conor – Ireland, Alun – Wales, Warwick – Australia, Michelle – Canada; Elaine – England, Veronica – Scotland, Chris – IMGA, Davy – IMGA, Keith – IMGA, Megan – IMGA, Jens - IMGA

Apologies received from Luxembourg and Germany; also, from Pierre-Luc and from Paul (USA) who had asked Carol to attend the meeting in his absence.

The meeting started at 19:00 UK time with eight countries present. Two more countries joined during the meeting.

With only eight countries initially at the start, the agenda order was re-organised, placing Items 1 and 2 at the end of the order. Items for discussion started at 19:15.

Agenda item 3. **FOLLOWING FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPATING REPS., A VOTE ON MAKING THE ASSISTANT REFEREE COURSE GO LIVE.**

Warwick has received excellent feedback about his online course. Translations are under way in French (being done by MGA Belgium), Italian and German. Other countries may also wish to offer translations. Vote on the proposal of making the course go live was passed (100% in favour)

Agenda item 4. **PROPOSAL THAT FOR ALL OF OUR INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS OUR ASSISTANT REFEREES MUST HAVE PASSED THIS COURSE - TO START IN 2022. GENERAL DISCUSSION. VOTE ON THIS AT NEXT ONLINE MEETING.**

It was immediately felt that all international competitions should have Assistant Referees to have passed this course. A discussion was held about how long someone's accreditation of passing this course would last and how far in advance of a competition it would be required to have been completed. It was felt that a yearly refresher course could be made available to address any new updates in our Rule Book. The Chef d'Équipe role could be expanded to include verification of course completion by a country's proposed Assistant Referees for a given competition. Warwick indicated that there is a feature that allows generation of a course completion report.

There was further discussion about using video clips as an aid to training. Alun suggested making notes of when an elimination occurred on his video system would be a way of finding suitable video footage; the suitability or not of 'staged error' video was discussed – in all cases, a committed videographer will be required. Additionally, discussion occurred as to whether completion of an in-person Assistant Referee course along with the online portion would be a requirement for Official status as an IMGA qualified Assistant Referee.

The proposal to vote on at our next online meeting is that:- **FOR All OUR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS OUR ASSISTANT REFEREES MUST HAVE PASSED THE ASSISTANT REFEREE ONLINE COURSE - TO START IN 2022.**

**Agenda item 5. NOMINATED LIAISON FROM EACH COUNTRY TO KEEP OUR COMMUNICATION OFFICER UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS GOING ON IN EACH COUNTRY.**

Megan would like more updates from our member countries so each country is asked to nominate a liaison who sends Megan results from national competitions, photos etc.

**Agenda item 6. FEEDBACK FROM CONOR'S SURVEY. VOTE ON SENDING IT OUT TO ALL OUR MEMBERS.**

Conor had also received feedback about our IMGA survey. Conor will send out the twelve questions again to our Reps so that they can all be translated. Discussion ensued about whether and how the results of the survey could be useful to individual countries. Conor will look at the wording on the survey to allow for this. The original intent of the survey was to inform internal IMGA Strategic Planning; there was informal agreement that based on the usefulness of the survey for individual countries, that adjustments be made and the proposal to send the survey out be voted on at the next online meeting.

**Agenda item 7. NEWSLETTER FEEDBACK.**

Positive feedback from our Reps. Thanks to Megan for her work in putting it together. Thanks also to Florence for her suggestion of new software used to create it. It was mentioned that the whole international outlook was much appreciated. Keep up the good work.

**Agenda item 8. ADVERTISING IN NEWSLETTER.**

A couple of companies have expressed an interest in advertising in our Newsletter. One company has paid for an advert in the next three issues. Advertising prices are £20 for a full page, £15 for a half page, and £10 for a quarter page.

There was concern that some advertising may not be appropriate to our Newsletter. Jens suggested we continue with the advertising for this year to see how this goes, then re-evaluate. It was felt that we should restrict advertising to companies associated with our sport and to equestrian-based companies.

**Agenda item 9. RESERVE REFEREES FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS THIS YEAR.**

Davy will be speaking to the reserve Referees in the event that the already selected UK-based Referees cannot attend the Europeans. Alternatives from further down the original Referee selection list for ETC have agreed to go ahead.

We will wait for more information about travel restrictions as they apply to Referees for World Team Championships in France.

**Agenda item 10. U15 AND U18 CUPS.**

These cups are at the engravers. A new cup in memory of Clive Jones had been purchased. It will be awarded to the winning Open team trainer at World Teams every year.

**Agenda item 11. UPDATES FROM OUR 2021 HOST COUNTRIES.**

Signe has been great at updating on social media for Europeans. The health situation continues to provide uncertainties. It was appreciated how much extra work the health crisis is causing our international competitions at the moment.

No updates available from World Teams or World Pairs. World Individuals update from Wales (Alun) is that all is going ahead as planned. Nations update was not available from Paul this time. Warwick said that Australia would not be able to go to Nations due to travel restrictions ; Canada outlined difficulties in planning due to restrictions.

**Agenda item 2. SHOULD IMGA GIVE MONEY TO OUR HOST COUNTRIES WHO HAVE LOST MONEY DUE TO CANCELLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS? GENERAL DISCUSSION. VOTE AT NEXT ONLINE MEETING.**

Discussion if this would set a precedent for future claims. Jens was of the opinion that IMGA would become an insurer for cancelled competitions if this proposal was accepted. Veronica pointed out that it was only for these exceptional circumstances that this was being proposed. Having not asked for affiliation fees this year, Jens felt that

if the proposal was accepted then he would propose to reinstate this year's affiliation fees. He accepted that these were exceptional circumstances but felt other countries might also wish to claim from IMGGA funds. This will be voted on at our next online meeting in August.

**Agenda item 1. POOL PONY DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON ALUN'S PROPOSAL. PROPOSAL AND FEEDBACK FROM REPS. ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL.**

Discussion started at 20:50.

Alun reviewed his proposal. There followed a discussion on grading of ponies, advantages and disadvantages of self-sourcing or using pool ponies. At twenty minutes past the scheduled finish time, it was decided that more needed to be done regarding grading pool ponies and that a working group would be set up to look into this. Offers of being in this working group are now open. It was also decided that the draw system for pool ponies needs to be looked at again. The key question of "Should there be no self-sourcing of ponies for non-European International team competitions?" needs to be answered for/at our next online meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 21.25

Additional item: IMGGA Representative, Florence, from Belgium said that she will, in the future, be represented by Robin at meetings but that she will continue to work with him. Our thanks go to Florence for the role she has played in our meetings.