

7TH Regular IBU CONGRESS – Khanty-Mansiysk RUS

30 August – 03 September 2006

Report from Mark Goodson SG BBU 07 Sep 06

Pre Congress

1. Khanty-Manysisk RUS was awarded the 7th Regular IBU Congress at the 6th Congress in Varna BUL in 2004. All pre Congress administration was carried out by the IBU, and could not be faulted, albeit the Russian Visa process in London was a little cumbersome. GBR delegates (and most of the other delegates) flew direct from Munich to Khanty-Manysisk with an IBU organised charter on Russian airline UT Air.
2. GBR was represented by Mark GOODSON (SG BBU) and Eddy LOWE (TD BBU). We did not take our 3rd entitled delegate.
3. All delegates stayed at the Congress hotel, 5 mins from the Airport and 10 mins from the Congress Hall.
4. UK Sport will pay approx 50% of the overall costs of the official GBR delegation.

Agenda & Reports

5. Prior to the Opening Ceremony GBR hosted a "London 2012" reception which was well received.
6. The record number of 51 Member Federations present agreed the agenda unanimously.
7. Mark GOODSON was appointed to the Electoral Committee for the Congress. For the first time the majority of voting was conducted electronically, which was a great success.
8. The President's report and financial report were both passed.
 - The IBU Vice President for Finance Dr Günther ZWATZ died at the end of January. The Vice President Marketing, Heinz BILLINO, took executive responsibility and Executive Director, Peter BAYER, daily responsibility for the finances. Generous tribute was made to the outstanding contribution made by Günther ZWATZ over many years. He left the IBU finances and sources of income (sponsorship / marketing etc) in excellent shape.
 - World & European Cup accommodation charges for athletes from all Nations are effectively covered by an increased IBU grant. IBU Infrastructure / Development support was due to be increased for all Nations, but an additional (total) € 200,000 was also announced.

Elections

9. Every four years (ie every 2nd Congress) the Executive Board and a number of other key functionaries are elected. (* denotes re-elected)

a. Election of President

Anders BESSEBERG * **NOR** **31**

Janez VODICAR SLO 19

b. Election of 1st Vice-President

Alexander TIKHONOV * **RUS** **32**

Andy SHEPARD USA 19

c. Election of Vice-President for Finances

Klaus LEISTNER **AUT** only candidate

d. Election of Vice-President for Sport

Vladimir SMIRNOV **KAZ**

Vladimir BRYNZAK UKR withdrew

Gottlieb TASCHLER ITA withdrew

e. Election of Vice-President for Marketing

Alfons HÖRMANN **GER**

Sergei BULYGIN BLR withdrew

f. Election of Vice-President for Development

Gottlieb TASCHLER **ITA**

Vladimir SMIRNOV KAZ withdrew

g. Election of Vice-President for Information

Ivor LEHOŤAN * **SVK** only candidate

h. Election of Vice-President Special Projects

Na-mi KIM **KOR** **28**

Corinne NIOGRET FRA 23

i. Election of Vice-President for Medical Issues

Jim CARRABRE * **CAN** only candidate

j. Election of Technical Committee

Norbert BAIER *	GER	48
Johnny ROGNSTAD *	NOR	44
Kari KORPELA	SLO	43
Pavel LEVORA	CZE	40
Christophe VASSALO	FRA	40
Ville HAAPALA	FIN	39
Vadim MELIKOV *	RUS	37
Max COBB *	USA	36
Robert ZWAHLEN *	SUI	34
Alexander POPOV	BLR	33
Juraj SANITRA	SVK	27
Franz BERGER jun.	AUT	24
Andreja KOBLAR	SLO	21
Roman BONDARUK	UKR	19
Alexander MILENKOVIĆ	SER	7

k. Election of Honorary Auditors

Ray KOKKONEN *	CAN	40
Jorma HELEN *	FIN	33
Václav FIŘTÍK	CZE	27

Motions

10. Constitution. Five motions to make minor amendments to the Constitution were approved; 2 were rejected.
11. Disciplinary Rules. Two motions to amend the Disciplinary Rules were approved, including one granting the Executive Board powers to remove a person from office for serious violations until confirmation by the next Congress. (This is in addition to doping related suspensions / bans etc for athletes & officials).
12. Anti-Doping Rules. Fifteen relatively minor or procedural amendments to Anti-Doping Rules were agreed. The onus to comply with IBU and WADA requirements remains on the athlete / official.
13. Competition Rules. Other than the elections, the motions to change the IBU Competition Rules raised the most discussion. Over 160 changes (some just grammatical) had been proposed by Nations and / or the Executive Board. More than half were eventually withdrawn or subsumed into other motions. The vast majority of changes apply only to International Competitions, although GBR attempts to mirror these where possible at the British Championships. *Pending publication of the new IBU Rule Book, the motions directly affecting Biathlon in GBR, and specifically the British & Army Championships will be incorporated in the re-write of the AWSA (Army Nordic) 2007 Rule Book which is scheduled for early Oct 06.* The Main Changes are listed below:
 - a. European Championships Age Limit. To be for Under 27s; Technical Committee to examine implications, probably not implemented until 2008 – 09.

- b. Mixed Relay. Now 2 x 6 km (women) + 2 x 7.5 km (men).
- c. World Cup (incl OWG and WCH) Qualification Criteria. Until now once an athlete has qualified to compete on the WC circuit he / she has effectively been there "for life" No more! Qualification from the European Cup to WC remains the same at 20% behind the average of the top 3 in Sprint or Individual race, but **the new rules (effective now) mean:**
- **This must be done during the current or previous season.**
 - **To remain qualified for the following season** the athlete must now achieve 20% for men (sprint or individual) / 20% for women (sprint) or 25% for women (individual) once during the current or previous season in a WC race.
 - **To qualify for World Champs or OWG** this 20 / 25% must be achieved twice during the current or previous season in a WC race.
(Notwithstanding any National eg BOA, Olympic Qualifying Standard)
 - **Members of Relay team must all be qualified to compete as individuals**
 - **Exemptions are only available on appeal to the IBU for serious injury or pregnancy**
- d. World Cup Start Groups. The first start group is now reserved for the top 30 competitors of the current WC Total Score, albeit these athletes can be entered into any start group.
- e. WC Entry Quotas. Although a GBR motion to introduce a promotion and relegation system in and out of the Top 20 in the final Nations Cup points table, from the end of the 2006 – 07 season, was passed by 32 votes to 15, we withdrew this motion after the changes in Para 13c above had been passed. (These changes should have been discussed before the GBR motion, but there were procedural reasons why it was not!). A revised motion from Canada to allow 3 start places (subject to meeting the new qualification – 13c above) to the 21st & 22nd Nations **with immediate effect** was passed by 44 votes to 2. GBR was in 22nd place last season!
14. Rifle Bag. The rifle bag must now provide a window of minimum 15 x 15 cm that allows a clear view of the rifle bolt.
15. Age of Technical Delegates. The maximum age for service as a TD is raised from 60 to 65 years (same as an International Referee).
16. Advertising & Logos. The advertising surface on athletes clothing is increased from 350 to 450 cm sq.
17. Introduction of IBU Cup. A new "second level" competition (behind the World Cup) will not be introduced until agreed at the 2008 Congress. This means it is unlikely to be introduced before the 2009 – 10 season, but as this an Olympic season we guess it will be 2010 – 11.

Future / Past World Championships & Congress

18. Presentations were made by Hochfilzen AUT (2005); Antholz ITA (02 – 11 Feb 2007); The 50th Anniversary at Östersund SWE (08 – 17 Feb 2008); Pyeong Chang KOR (06 -15 Feb 2009).

19. Election for World Championships 2011.

Khanty-Mansysik	RUS	27
Nové Město na Moravě	CZE	20
Minsk	BLR	withdrew

20. Election for Congress 2008.

Prague	CZE	31
Portorož	SLO	17
Vancouver	CAN	withdrew

Honours & Awards

21. A number of IBU Honours and Awards were presented, including one to the late Dr Günther ZWATZ, which was received by his widow Inge.

Mark Goodson
Secretary General BBU
07 September 2006