



## Constitution Standing Committee

Meetings:	Monday May 18 <sup>th</sup> 2009	13.00-16.00
	Tuesday May 19 <sup>th</sup> 2009	13.00-16.00
	Wednesday May 20 <sup>th</sup> 2009	13.00-16.00

Room: Scandinavia Scene / Nesodden

Chairman: Patrik Sandin (Sweden)

Members: Jacques Chartier (France), Pekka Soini (Finland), Heinz Tell (Germany), James O'Sullivan (Ireland), Jean Pierre Kratzer (Switzerland), Odd H. Johansen (Norway)

Minutes secretary: Julie Halcrow

### **3. RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF 2007 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM CHRISTCHURCH.**

The minutes from the Christchurch meeting was read by all members and no remarks were put forward.

### **REVIEW OF INTER CONFERENCE MEETING IN CANADA May 1<sup>st</sup> 2008**

The minutes of the 2008 Inter Conference Meeting in Montreal were commented upon with regards to inaccuracy. The members agreed that the minutes for future events – both WTC and Inter Conference meetings are to be approved by the chairman within two weeks of the meeting for thereafter to be forwarded to the other members for final approval within a month.



#### 4. ITA CONSTITUTION

- a) The committee proposes to change article 3 in the Constitution of the International Trotting Association. The new article is proposed to be as follows:

##### 3. MEMBERSHIP

###### a) Full Membership:

Membership of the Association shall be open to all Government Bodies of all countries (or groups of countries) that pursue the above objects and active conduct trotting races.

-There shall be only one ITA member pr. Country.

-The candidate for membership shall provide evidence of its role and responsibility in trotting and breeding and racing and shall undertake to fulfill its obligation as set out in the Constitution.

Should a member not attend two consecutive biennial meetings of the International Trotting Association, the country's membership should be reviewed by the Constitution Committee who may take such action as is necessary.

The new passage will be:

Should a member not attend **several** consecutive biennial meetings of the International Trotting Association, the country's membership should be reviewed by the Constitution Committee who may take such action as is necessary.

b) It is important to enforce /protect the rights of racing arrangers. The delegates once more drew attention to the importance of government prevention of distribution without rights. It is important to clarify betting rights/ownership of races. Also rights of pictures and races being exploited without formal confirmation by the owners. Once again it was emphasized the importance of government prevention of distributing races without rights. An updated, short declaration is prepared by Mr. Chartier and will be presented in General Assembly.

c) The committee listened to an address made by Mr. Ulf Hörnberg about the present situation in South African harness racing after reading the Swedish report made in 2008. Mr Chartier also quoted from a French report made in 2009.

**The committee agreed to award South Africa a full membership of ITA. With this they hope to help South Africa in their quest to start a healthy foundation for future harness racing.**



d) The committee proposes that the Annual Member Country Fee is to be raised from US\$200 to US\$250 effective from year 2010.

e) For the planned WTC in 2011, hosted by USA, the official language will be English and French. Should any country feel the need for additional translation/interpretation they will have to cover the cost of such aid themselves.

## 5. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON TROTTING RACES

We already have an existing agreement for racing. In order for the committee to put forward changes, they must be admitted no less than two (2) months before the next meeting. The committee wishes that members propose changes, in order to ease the working process and time spent in getting approval.

## 6. ITA LIST OF HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

a) A review of the list was performed and the present list is as stands:

***Åke Isberg – Sweden***  
***Ken Dyer – Australia***  
***Dr. Earnest Manea – Australia***  
***Jacques Chartier – France***  
***Ted Smith - Canada***  
***Rod Pollock – Australia***  
***Matti Lakkisto – Finland***  
***Alla Polzunova – Russia***

b) After due consideration the 2009 nominations recommended to the General Assembly are as follows:

***Dominique DeBellaigue – France***  
***Patrik Sandin – Sweden***  
***Mick Lombardo – Australia***  
***Tore Fyrand - Norway***



## 7. FUTURE WORLD TROTting CONFERENCES

a) Objectives for future World Trotting Conferences and Inter Conference Meetings should be discussed between arranging federations in the period of time between events.

b) On Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a presentation of the upcoming WTC –held by the USTA. This meeting will take place over a five (5) day period. The committee discussed whether future conferences could be shortened and intensified without compromising the quality of work, but felt that the current arrangement is adequate.

c) The committee proposes that the 2011 WTC should address the earlier recommendation of increasing the number of committees during the WTC. The experience from the Oslo conference is that there are too few delegates for any growth in committees to take place. There was a unanimous agreement towards reducing the number committees to:

- a) Constitution
- b) Equine Health
- c) Breeding
- d) Marketing/Business development & wagering/Integrity.

The committee felt that a lesser number of committees will create efficiency. The delegates were also united in wanting a final presentation of the WDC to be held in front of the General Assembly instead of holding daily meetings at the conference during the competition.

e) As for Inter Conference Meetings - the committee decided that they are to be hosted by the same host as the following WTC. The federation that is to host WTC will take over the responsibility for the ITA one (1) year prior to the meeting and pass it on one (1) year after. Hereunder lays also the responsibility for the update of a current Internet site concerning WTC.

f) The work Norway performed ahead of the present Conference was made difficult by lacking response to letters mailed / e-mailed to other federations. In order to effectuate this aspect Mr. Chartier offered that the secretary of the UET will act as the official contact between federations and the future hosts of the WTC.



## **8. DETERMINATION AND CONFIRMATION OF FUTURE WTC HOSTS AND MEETINGS**

a) The Inter Conference Meeting of 2010 will be held in the United States of America. The meeting coincides with The Hambletonian. The committee agreed that for future reference each federation should participate with at least one (1) member (chief executive) each. UET, Australasia and USA should also do the same. The number of additional participants will depend upon the agenda.

b) The USTA has confirmed that the World Trotting Conference of 2011 also will coincide with The Hambletonian. The conference will be held over a five (5) day period.

As for the World Championship for Drivers, the committee wishes that this event will be arranged coinciding with the WTC – if possible. Yet the committee acknowledged that this might create problems for some hosting federations.

The committee is concerned about decreasing participation of ITA members to the WTC, and feels that choosing to unite conferences with major trotting events surely will increase future participation.

c) Russia has earlier expressed interest to host the WTC in 2013. After considering the current problems in Russia, Mr. Chartier, on behalf of the committee, conferred with the Russian delegate Alla Polzunova. She agreed that, in light of their problems, it would be better if France took over the responsibility of hosting the Inter Conference Meeting 2012 and the World Trotting Conference and WDC in 2013.

d) As for The World Trotting Conference in 2015 the committee has received a proposal from South Africa, who wish to host the WTC. The committee finds that it is too early for South Africa to take on such an event. Instead Australia is an actual candidate for this task. This decision will be finalized at a later meeting.



## **9. INTERNATIONAL BETTING DEVELOPMENTS**

## **10. STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, THREATS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

## **11. CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES ARISING FROM PRESENTATIONS TO BUSINESS SESSIONS OF WORLD CONFERENCE**

The committee feels that items nr. 9-10-11 is better discussed in other forums and furthermore that these issues were thoroughly addressed during the lectures held on Monday. The committee members have no more insight to add on these topics.

## **12. OTHER MATTERS / GENERAL BUSINESS**

No other matters were raised.