



## **EUROPEAN SHOOTING CONFEDERATION MINUTES OF THE XXVIII ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Larnaka, Cyprus

Date: October 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

Place: Lordos Beach Hotel

### **1. Welcome and Opening of the General Assembly (October 21<sup>st</sup>, 15:00)**

The ESC hymn is played.

The ESC President Vladimir Lisin welcomes the delegates, the Presidium and guests of the XXVIII Ordinary General Assembly of the European Shooting Confederation. He remarks that it is a special pleasure that the General Assembly is being attended by so many participants.

Then the ESC President asks the ESC Secretary General Mr. Alexander Ratner to proceed with the Agenda.

### **2. Roll-call**

The Secretary General proceeds to the roll-call which shows that delegates of 52 Member Federations from 48 countries are present in the meeting room. Another 2 Member Federations are represented by proxies duly submitted in writing according to the Statutes. In total 54 out of 57 Member Federations from 48 countries are represented at the beginning of the General Assembly. So, there is a quorum for any decisions.

No objection is raised by the General Assembly.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

The Secretary General reminds that the notification procedure of all required documents for the General Assembly has taken place according to the ESC Statutes, within due terms. The first notice of the General Assembly was sent out on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 announcing the date of the General Assembly, providing deadlines for the Member Federations with respect to proposals and applications to be included in the Agenda.

The second notice was sent out on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 announcing the place of the General Assembly. The official invitation letter and summons of the XXVIII General Assembly were

sent to the Member Federations on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in accordance with Art. 5.4 of the ESC Statutes.

All documents were also uploaded on the ESC website and were available as downloads.

No additional items were proposed by the Member Federations.

Decision: The Agenda is unanimously approved.

#### **4. Nomination of Scrutinizers and the Minutes Committee**

Upon proposals of the Presidium the Delegates unanimously take the following decisions:

- to approve as Scrutinizers Mr. Meelis Loit, Secretary General of the Estonian Shooting Sport Federation, Mrs. Elena Allen, Head of International Department of the British Shooting Limited and Mr. Florian Josef Neururer, Secretary General of the Austrian Shooting Sport Federation;
- to approve Mr. Petros Kyritsis and Mrs. Biserka Vrbek as members of the Minutes Committee.

#### **5. Approval of the Minutes of the XXVII ESC Ordinary General Assembly held in Budapest, Hungary, on October 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

The Secretary General notes that the Minutes of the XXVII ESC Ordinary General Assembly were sent out to the Member Federations and published on the ESC website long ago. No comments or observations have been received. So, he proposes that the Minutes are approved.

Decision: The Minutes are unanimously approved.

#### **6. Report of the Presidium (for the period of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021)**

Mr. Petros Kyritsis, ESC Vice-President, takes the floor. He reminds that the Presidium's report has been made public in due time and that he is ready to answer any questions.

#### **Presidium meetings**

During the reported period the ESC Presidium conducted the following meetings:

- Wrocław, Poland, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Zoom Video Communications, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Zoom Video Communications, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Zoom Video Communications, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Zoom Video Communications, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Osijek, Croatia, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Zoom Video Communications, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

#### **Agenda of the meetings**

The Agenda of the ESC Presidium meeting included the following items:

- reports on the activity of the President;
- reports on preparations of the European Championships in 2020 – 2022;
- cooperation with the Organizers of future European Championships;
- discussions with the European Broadcasting Union for live TV coverage of European Championships;
- modernization of the ESC website;
- appointment of Technical Delegates and officials to European Championships and other ESC competitions;
- relationship with ESC Member Federations;
- relationships with partners and sponsors of the ESC;
- preparations of the 2021 General Assembly;
- development program for European coaches and referees;
- cooperation with the ISSF on Tokyo 2020 Olympic Qualification competitions;
- appropriate measures and necessary steps regarding the COVID-19 pandemic;
- financial matters;
- membership matters;
- legal matters;
- issues of the Technical Committee;
- issues of the Press and Promotion Committee;
- issues of the Athletes Committee;
- approval of European records.

### European Championships

The following European Championships were organized since October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019:

European Championship 10m, Rifle/Pistol/Running Target, Wrocław, Poland, February 23<sup>rd</sup>– March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 (586 athletes representing 45 nations).

European Championship 10m/25m/50m/300m/Shotgun, Osijek, Croatia, May 20<sup>th</sup>– June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (1182 athletes representing 48 nations).

### European Youth League Championship

In 2019 the EYL Final took place in Budapest, Hungary, with 16 teams from 12 nations that qualified through the regional qualification rounds. In 2020-2021 the EYL competitions were cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Lapua European Cup 300m

In 2019 there were three qualification competitions: Århus-Denmark, Lahti-Finland, and Thun-Switzerland with a Final taking place in Châteauroux-France. A total of 366 athletes participated in the four competitions including the Final. The 2020 Lapua European Cup 300m was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The qualification rounds for 2021 were

organized in Eskilstuna-Sweden, Zagreb-Croatia and in Århus-Denmark. The Final took place in Winterthur-Switzerland, on September 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>.

### Lapua European Cup 25m

In 2019 the qualification rounds took place in Suhl-Germany, Århus-Denmark, Tallinn-Estonia, and Thun-Switzerland, with a Final in Châteauroux-France. The total number of participating athletes was 118. In 2020 the host cities were Tallinn-Estonia (20), Öckerö-Sweden (12), and Århus-Denmark (13), with a Final in Châteauroux-France, on September 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, which was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The total number of participating athletes in 2020 was 45. The qualification rounds for 2021 were organized in Århus-Denmark, Tallinn-Estonia, Suhl-Germany, and Rečica Pri Laškem-Slovenia. The Final was organized in Châteauroux, France, on September 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>.

### The ESC Air Cup powered by Walther and Capapie.

The ESC Air Cup was organized by the ESC Technical Committee with events in Air Pistol, Air Rifle and Running Target. The idea behind it is to offer athletes who have not participated in any ISSF/ESC Championships a stepping stone and an opportunity to compete in an international competition via internet from their own club range. It encourages participation and makes the Air Cup a shooting sport for all. Despite the problems caused by the COVID pandemic, the competition was adapted to allow participation with a final to be shown in a new way with each of the finalists taking part from their home ranges. In the 2020-2021 season there were 627 participants from 140 clubs from 18 countries. The ESC Air Cup is powered by Walther and Capapie. These two companies are sponsoring the competition and the prizes for the winners. Capapie also established the awards for all finalists. The sponsor agreement is for a period of four years. The Air Cup competitions took place from November 2020 till March 2021. The Air Cup Super Final was organized for the first time live on Internet on the weekend of October 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

There are no questions from the delegates. The Secretary General proposes to approve the Report. Voting takes place.

Decision: The Presidium's report is unanimously approved.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

The report is presented by the ESC Vice-President and Treasurer Mr. Pekka Kuusisto:

Dear Delegates,

Dear Colleagues,

The financial situation of our Confederation is stable despite the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and cancellation of several Championships. It can be easily understood from the ESC Balances for the two-year period. By December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018, there were 650.325,70 Euro on the ESC account. By December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, the ESC capital was equal to 659.092,58 Euro. And,

as before, the ESC has fulfilled all its obligations towards the Member Federations, the athletes, partners, organizers of the competitions. It means we are in good shape.

As in the previous years the most considerable part of the ESC income came from the private contributions provided by our President. Thanks to this contribution the medalists and finalists of the 2019-2020 European Championships received prize money. The medal winners of the 2019 European Youth League got special prizes. Certain promotional and protocol activities were accomplished.

Another part of the income came from the membership fees. The decision of the Presidium was not to charge the membership fees for 2021. I thank everybody for this contribution.

The 2019 European Championships and the 2020 European Championship 10m attracted a lot of participants and the income from the entry fees arranged by the Organizing Committees is also very significant. We cannot neglect the effort done by organizers of the Lapua 25m and 300m European Cups.

From our Balances you can see that we are very accurate with expenses and that our accounting is transparent. It is confirmed by the Auditors and by the Swiss Tax authorities that check our balances. For all ESC payment orders we follow the principle of two signatures. Neither the President, nor the Treasurer nor the Secretary General can solely give payment instructions to the bank. I want to thank our Secretariat for extremely good co-operation and well-done bookkeeping.

There are no questions from the delegates. The Secretary General proposes to approve the Treasurer's report. Voting takes.

Decision: The Treasurer's report is unanimously approved.

## **8. Auditors' report and official discharge of the Presidium for the financial activity in 2019-2020.**

The written report of the ESC accounting for the years 2019-2020 prepared by the ESC Auditors Mr. Siegfried Boeck and Mr. Heinz-Helmut Fischer is presented by the ESC Vice-President and Treasurer Mr. Pekka Kuusisto as either of the ESC Auditors could attend the General Assembly, in person.

The Auditors report confirmed that the accounts had been duly audited and found to be correct as well as in accordance with the decisions of the Presidium.

There are no questions from the delegates. The Secretary General proposes to approve the Auditors report. Voting takes place.

Decision: The Auditors report is unanimously approved.

Following the approval of the Auditors report, the Secretary General proposes the discharge of the Presidium for the financial activity of 2019-2020.

Voting takes place.

Decision: The Presidium is officially discharged for the ESC financial activity of 2019-2020.

## **9. Membership matters**

The Secretary General reports that no new official applications for Membership were received by the Secretariat, so there is nothing to discuss on this item of the Agenda.

## **10. Report of the Review Committee**

The report is presented by Mrs. Christina Åhlstedt on behalf of the Review Committee. She points out that there were no proposals of the Member Federations to be evaluated and that there were no comments to the proposals of the Presidium to amend the ESC Statutes and the ESC General Regulations.

The information is taken in consideration.

## **11. - 12. Proposals of the Presidium**

The Secretary General makes reference to the addendums and the proposed changes in the ESC Statutes and the ESC General Regulations. The respective documents were uploaded on the ESC website in due time and they can also be found in the booklet distributed to the delegates.

He gives the floor to Mrs. Biserka Vrbek who explains the reasons of the proposed changes that, mostly, are determined by the requirements of the new ISSF Constitution and General Regulations.

As no further comments or alternative proposals have been received, the Secretary General suggests to vote on the approval of the new versions of both documents.

Voting takes place on the approval of addendums and changes in the ESC Statutes.

Result of voting: 93 votes in favor and 2 abstentions.

Decision: The new version of the ESC Statutes is approved.

Voting takes place on the approval of addendums and changes in the ESC General Regulations.

Result of voting: 93 votes in favor and 2 abstentions.

Decision: The new version of the ESC General Regulations is approved.

### **13. Presentation on the promotion of the shooting sport in mass media**

Mrs. Anna Leshchikova makes an extensive presentation about the current situation with the promotion of the shooting sport in mass media. The main accent is made on the summary of the audience statistics which ESC is obtaining now due to regular TV broadcasting and streaming of competitions. The main data was gathered from the ISSF internet resources – Facebook, YouTube and Livestream – since 2019.

The overview was done in respect to the European Championships organized in the last 3 years – 2019, 2020 and 2021. It helped to follow the trends and to study the dynamic of the audience. The presentation contained information not only about European audience but also about audience from other continents which followed European championships as well which in some cases was even more active than the European one. It was noted that the start of the pandemic impacted the situation as far as in 2020 there was only one European Championship 10m in Poland. But as for the European Championship 2021 (all events) in Croatia it brought incredible growth of the audience as the Championship was one of the most important competitions on the eve of Olympic Games and it gave its effect in the audience numbers.

The progress which is achieved at the current moment is a result of the regular work of the European shooting community of the image aspects such as athletes' dress code, layout and look of the final halls and final ranges and the effort of the TV crews in the countries hosting the championships. But still there is a lot of work to be done especially in contacting the national TV broadcasting with the aim of increasing the audience.

Besides European Championships, Mrs. Leshchikova presents summarized statistics on the audience views of the ISSF World Cups and World Championships in 2019 and 2021 comparing the number of the competitions and the total number of audience views. The main obvious conclusions are that due to regular streaming the shooting sport started to get the positive audience dynamic even though the number of the competitions is lower in pandemic reality.

In her report Mrs. Leshchikova pays special attention to the importance of the work with statistics as basic information for sponsor contracts, media relations and overall promotion of the shooting sport.

### **14. President's report**

Mr. Vladimir Lisin takes the floor and addresses the General Assembly.

Dear Friends! Dear Colleagues!

I am happy to have this chance to tell you about the work done since 2009.

Though it's called President's Report in the Agenda, it is actually a report about our common work. Let's start.

First of all as the ISSF President I congratulate all of you with the success of our sport at Olympic Games in Tokyo. I want to read to you extracts for the letters of the IOC President Mr. Thomas Bach and IOC Sport Director Kit McConnell.

***Thomas Bach:** I would like to thank you and your team for the great partnership we have shared in these Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, and I look forward to continuing our close collaboration as we work together towards the Olympic Games Paris 2024.*

***Kit McConnell:** Thank all of the ISSF for their partnership in the fantastic delivery of a fantastic Olympic Shooting competition in Tokyo*

Input of the European Shooting Confederation is considerable. Till 2032 inclusive there are no risks for the shooting sport in Olympic Movement. On behalf of the IOC leadership let me thank you for the successful Olympic Games.

Now we come back to the information I prepared for you about the work which was done since 2009.

Being elected for the position of the ESC President in 2009 and with experience as a manager I understood that I should check the ESC status and give the status of the entire European body.

For that, we were to decide on a place for the ESC Headquarters. The decision was Lausanne. As it is close to the IOC. We consolidated all accounts. As they were in different banks. We obtained the status of a taxpayer in Switzerland. Our Headquarters became the center of official information.

The ESC website was updated several times and in 2019 we launched a new website.

We did our best to ensure full compliance with our Charter both in the holding of General Assemblies and in regular discussions of the Presidium.

Though every General Assembly supposes many formal issues for decision making, our practice has shown that it's the best option for face-to-face communication. It has allowed us to exchange our opinions and to look for the best solutions.

As an example, the idea of the ISSF Development Fund was born as a result of such discussions. We used General Assemblies for achieving practical goals of communication with our federations.

It's necessary to remark that the Presidium was renewed on regular basis to make its work more active and to recognize the interests of member federations. But at the same time, we followed the principle of continuity.

Today, you are going to elect a new enlarged Presidium. I have only one wish for you – please elect those whom you know, look at those of you who have already achieved some progress in the past and think about what valuable and useful results they can bring for our common business in future. We need working horses / working manpower. The success is always on the side of those who don't speak about winning a lotto ticket but instead work a lot.



In the past period, the Presidium has organized 32 meetings.

I want to note that we have achieved certain level of balance in Presidium. What I mean? Now every Presidium member is valuable not because he is a nobleman with his status. He is valuable due to work he or she is doing. And because of the responsibility he or she carries on the shoulders. The initiative to increase the number of Presidium members is related to the increased number of the issues and goals we are interested in. The personal vision of the activity as a Presidium member is very important for our candidates. We offered them to fill in a questionnaire and will present you the results during the elections.

I want to thank our Honorary President Unni Nicolaysen, Vice-President Kerstin Bodin. The exclusive work they had done for us is the basis for continuity and professional level of our Presidium. They have created the foundation for future development.

I must pay special attention to Presidium members of all years of my presidency who were active in working on any kind of issues, were proactive, showed initiative and participated in the cooperation both between themselves and with our federations. I can assure you that especially in recent years this work didn't require my administrative interference.

Many of you can confirm that not a single issue from you, not a single letter was left without attention. We didn't allow ourselves formal replies.

Apart from publishing open information on the ESC website, we used direct and personal correspondence which is a great opportunity to find out your opinion and benefit from direct feedback and expertise.

Modern progress including the global network is a new reality of communication. And we don't ignore it. We are active on Instagram, Facebook and our website. These channels cannot and do not substitute personal communication at competitions, but they stimulate the expansion of the communication. It's a source of priceless amount of feedback.

It's important to improve and continue this work for all of us.

We are thankful to those who like our posts and leave positive comments. But we also pay special attention to critics as it helps us to evaluate our work.

For me, one slogan is always important: a complaint is a present!

The pandemic has interfered in our life and work. We lost our colleagues. We grieve about them.

The war against the pandemic is not over yet. People still get sick and unfortunately pass away. We must protect our colleagues, athletes, and all members of our family. Our last competitions were conducted at the peak in COVID cases in Europe. We realized the risks. But we realized as well that that we had to give athletes a chance to compete for the last Olympic European quotas. And of course, we were to let them compete on the eve of Olympic Games. We succeeded in it. Many international federations applauded the work we organized.

I want to express my gratitude to federations which hosted those competitions and managed to provide the most efficient measures of protection and control:

Polish Sport Shooting Federation

Cyprus Shooting Sport Federation

Federazione Italiana Tiro a Volo

And my special and deep gratitude to our colleagues from the Croatian Shooting Federation. There were brave and saved us on the eve of the Olympic Games 2 times.

Competitions without any doubts are the most important periods in our activity. The spirit and atmosphere of competitions is the achievement of the organizing committees. Secretary General and I were present at nearly all of them. For us, competitions are the main source of knowledge, an opportunity to check the validity of information and to find out whether we are doing the right things. We perfectly understand that the presence of leadership, members of the Presidium and committees gives status and importance for the participants, local and state authorities.

I don't care about my formal function – I mean opening speeches at competitions. For me and the Secretary General, communication, as well as direct interaction with main actors, is more important. Without such talks and discussions with organizing committees, technical delegates, referees, coaches, athletes, and the industry, the efficiency goes down.

Only this interaction brought us to those innovations where Europe became a leader.

1) New formats – all of you remember that in 2017 we had guests from the IOC at our European Championship in Maribor. They came to monitor our mixed team events. Later, it allowed the ISSF to propose to the IOC new events for the Olympic program, with confirmation that those events were tested at the European Championship. New formats are a chance for more medals and success at competitions in individual, mixed team and team events.

2) VAR – while working on the improvement of the TV production in Europe, we prepared a technical basis for the implementation of VAR. And we immediately tested it at international competitions. I can state that when we used the VAR, it minimized the number of referees mistakes and discussions about unfair results.

3) Regular TV broadcastings – those who are with us since 2010 remember well and those who joined later can find out in the archives how we started TV production in Kazan, Brescia, Serbia, Finland. Since that time, we do it on regular basis.

4) Eurosport – we signed the first contract in 2010 because we realized that without a nice and attractive TV and Internet picture, we cannot achieve the love and respect for our sport. New stars among our athletes will now start shining for a multimillion audience.

5) New competitions – the European Confederation was the first to support the initiative of establishing the European Games. Our quota for the next games is 340 athletes. 30 medal sets will be distributed.

We conduct the ESC Air Cup which involves athletes of all levels and gives them a chance to compete online.

The Youth League was the initiative of Unni Nicolaisen and Kerstin Bodin. We have developed it and we see in it the future of our sport. We support it and we must support it in the future. Since 2019, it is known as the Youth League Championship.

6) The concept of the shooting theatre – together with organizing committees we implemented the concept of the shooting theatre for the finals. It was first introduced in Brescia in 2011. Not it's a regular practice in our shooting sport.

7) Dress Code – many of you remember that at first our European initiatives with dress code caused active discussions within our shooting community. But as time passed the idea was accepted and influenced the look of our athletes and changed in positive way. It's important for us because the information space has grown. The reputation of sport and athletes is becoming more and more important for the young generation.

One of the important indicators of a confederation's activities is the performance of its athletes at the Olympics.

The popularity of the shooting sport is reflected by the growing competition on the international level. It is clear to everyone that the competition has increased. We should recognize the remarkable success of athletes from Asia — India, South Korea, and China. Still, at the last three Olympic Games, the European Confederation has won over 50 percent of medals among all five continents.

However, we should not relax. There is still a lot of work to be done. At Tokyo-2020, the share of European countries among all countries with medals has increased compared to Rio-2016 and reached the level of London-2012. We should celebrate the considerable success of federations which have improved their performance:

Bulgaria – Rifle and Pistol shooting

Czech Republic – Shotgun shooting

Denmark – Shotgun shooting

Spain – Shotgun shooting

San Marino – Shotgun shooting

Serbia – Rifle and Pistol shooting

Switzerland – Rifle and Pistol shooting

Slovakia – Shotgun shooting

France – Rifle and Pistol shooting

Of course, we were disappointed by the performance of some of the strongest European federations which had obtained a lot of quota places but did not transfer them into Olympic medals.

It is evident that all sports are getting younger and younger. The shooting sport is no exception. If we look at the period since 2009, the average age of finalists and medalists was 30 years.

In the last 4 years, it has decreased to 27 years for medalists, and 29 years for finalists.

Our shooting family is big. The industry is part of our family, just like athletes, coaches, and referees.

Everyone will agree that the success of our sport and the success of our industry is the way to the future.

The dialogue with the industry provides us not only with questions but also with new ideas and support.

Industry without information from us will not be able to plan the long-term business and technology development. And without the information about the industry's innovation potential, we will not be able to improve our sport.

I would like to thank the sponsors of our competitions. They are the true industry leaders. And I also greatly appreciate the work of many other parties. The importance of their contribution cannot be overemphasized.

We cannot ignore the important current trend of sustainability. I would like to decipher the meaning of this term – among other things it includes environmental protection, stability, and recirculation. There are several important matters. In rifle and pistol shooting, we easily cope with the collection and recycling of lead waste, with almost 100% control. In shotgun shooting, we still have to manage this process. There are no concerns about the recycling of plastic and other waste materials, as well as the use of eco-friendly targets. As for the use of lead ammunition in shotgun shooting, there is still a lot of work we need to do. The entire work of the ESC – the discussions, arguments, and results of scientific research – is presented on the USB memory sticks provided to you. Tomorrow Mr. Jean-François Palinkas, President of the FITASC, will tell you about our work in more detail. The ISSF has prepared a new document – the Sustainability Guidelines. Our colleague – the President of the Luxembourg Shooting Federation Claudia Dall'Agnol – is a member of the Sustainability Committee. I believe that this document will be approved and distributed very soon. I will not spend much time on this matter. For many of you, this is a standard practice. We should pay attention not only to the mentioned lead-related issues but also to reducing the use of paper, eliminating the effect on water bodies, and the impact of noise on people. We will also continue our work in the sphere of the transportation of firearms.

You could ask me: why do you support the positive balance of the ESC account and even increase it? Why did you increase the ESC account balance twice in the last 12 years?

1) First of all, like with any other organization, supporting a positive balance shows our contracting parties and partners that we are liable for our obligations.

2) In our experience, we have often had to make quick decisions in extreme circumstances. This includes the postponement of some European Championships and supporting the last European Championship in the circumstances of a pandemic. Or the unexpected decrease in revenue in 2020 due to the cancellation of competitions.

3) Everyone knows that the Olympic Games were postponed by one year, and we understood that the ISSF would not receive the expected income in 2020. No one knows what will happen in the future. Of course, the positive balance ensures certain stability and comfort. And our balance-improving efforts have proved their value.

I hope that our account balance will not be affected in the future.

Since 2010, we have established grants which, based on a suggestion of the Presidium, have been allocated to rewarding the winners and medalists of European Championships.

The total sum of prize money paid since 2009 is 1,8 million euro.

I hope that those who are here today will support the new Presidium in carrying on this tradition.

I believe that it is important to reward not only individual athletes, but the ESC Member Federations. One of the indicators of their performance is the number of quota places. Each individual quota place was estimated at 10 000 US dollars. These targeted incentive payments have been aimed at supporting statutory activities. In total, 32 countries have already received 1.1 million US dollars as part of this program.

This process is not over. Not all eligible federations have claimed their grants yet.

The amount of money depends on the number of quota places obtained. At the end of the day, it all comes down to your efforts.

I have already mentioned the role of the industry. Its representatives have not only reacted promptly by supplying standard equipment but have also quoted the best possible discounted prices for their equipment as part of the ISSF Development Fund's activities. This process is also not over. We are still receiving requests from European countries.

Thank you for your attention.

**After that the ESC President awards with special distinctions several individuals for their contribution in the development of the shooting sport during his Presidency.**

The ESC orders for "Presidential longevity" are awarded to:

- 1) Luciano Rossi – President of the Federazione Italiana Tiro a Volo
- 2) Janez Slapar – President (1993-2005, 2012-2021) of the Shooting Union of Slovenia

- 3) Oleg Volkov – President of the Ukrainian Shooting Federation
- 4) Vagif Akhundov - President of the Shooting Federation of Azerbaijani Republic
- 5) Halldor Axelsson – President of the Icelandic Shooting Sports Federation
- 6) Stefan Rrufa – Presiden of the Albanian Shooting Sport Federation
- 7) DDr. Herwig van Staa – President of the Austrian Shooting Sport Federation
- 8) Tomasz Kwiecień – President of the Polish Sport Shooting Federation
- 9) Demetris Lordos – Chairman of the ISSF Shotgun Committee

The ESC orders for “Sports pride” are awarded to:

Nino Salukvadze – Olympic champion, multiple World and European champion, participant of 9 Olympic Games;

Maria Grozdeva – Two-time Olympic champion, multiple European champion, participant of 7 Olympic Games.

The ESC order “For the foresight” is awarded to Unni Nicolaysen, ESC Honorary President.

The ESC order “Overcoming” is awarded to Hubert Kišpal, President of the Croatian Shooting Federation.

The ESC medals are awarded to the ESC Honorary Members Kerstin Bodin and Werner Hirt.

The ESC medals for “Experience” are awarded to Sander Duisterhof, Secretary General of the Royal Netherlands Shooting Sport Association, Jörg Brokamp, Secretary General of the German Shooting Sport Federation, and Meelis Loit, Secretary General of the Estonian Shooting Sport Federation

The ESC medals for effective management of the competitions are awarded to Zoran Ćelić, Vice-President of the Croatian Shooting Federation, Ivan Carella, President of the Trap Concaverde Shooting Range, Emin Jafarov, Secretary General of the Shooting Federation of Azerbaijani Republic, and László Sinka, Secretary General of the Hungarian Shooting Federation

The ESC medals are awarded to representatives of the industry: Wulf-Heinz Pflaumer, Managing Partner UMAREX GmbH & Co. KG, Bernhard Knoebel, CEO, Walther GmbH, Thomas Walti, CEO, SIUS AG, Jean-Michel Laporte, President, Laporte Ball Trap SA, Herbert Sauer, CEO, Sauer GmbH, Arne Roarldsoy, CEO, Megalink, Marco Martelli, CEO, Promatic International Ltd., Maurizio Castellani, President, Castellani s.r.l, Silvia Mattarelli, President, Mattarelli s.r.l.

**Further, with gratitude for hospitality and perfect organization of the European competitions in 2009-2021, the President awards with Hermle Astrolabien watch the following Member Federations.**

1. Croatia – Croatian Shooting Federation
2. Norway – Norwegian Shooting Association
3. Russia – Russian Shooting Union
4. Italy – Italian Shooting Union
5. Serbia – Serbian Shooting Sport Federation
6. Finland – Finnish Shooting Sport Federation
7. Cyprus – Cyprus Shooting Sport Federation
8. Denmark – Danish Shooting Union
9. Germany – German Shooting Sport Federation
10. French – French Shooting Federation
11. Slovenia – Shooting Union of Slovenia
12. Hungary – Hungarian Shooting Federation
13. Switzerland – Swiss Shooting Sport Federation
14. Netherlands – Royal Netherlands Shooting Sport Association
15. Azerbaijan – Shooting Federation of Azerbaijani Republic
16. Sweden – Swedish Shooting Sport Federation
17. Estonia – Estonian Shooting Sport Federation
18. Austria – Austria Shooting Federation Clay Target and Combined
19. Portugal – Portuguese Shooting Federation
20. Belarus – Belarusian Shooting Sport Federation
21. Italy – Federazione Italiana Tiro a Volo
22. Poland – Polish Sport Shooting Federation
23. Montenegro – Shooting Federation of Montenegro
24. San Marino – Federazione Sammarinese Tiro a Segno
25. San Marino – Federazione Sammarinese Tiro a Volo

**Other 32 Member Federations have been awarded with Hermle clocks for shooting sport development and with hope for new achievements:**

1. Albania – Albanian Shooting Sport Federation
2. Andorra – Federacio Andorrana de Tir
3. Armenia – Armenian Shooting Federation
4. Austria – Austrian Shooting Sport Federation
5. Belgium – Belgian Clay Shooting Federation
6. Belgium – Royal Belgian Shooting Sport Federation
7. Bosnia and Herzegovina – Shooting Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
8. Bulgaria – Bulgarian Shooting Union
9. Bulgaria – Bulgarian Trap and Skeet Federation
10. Czech Republic – Czech Shooting Federation
11. Spain – Royal Spanish Shooting Federation

12. Great Britain – British Shooting Limited
13. Georgia – Georgian National Shooting Federation
14. Greece – Hellenic Shooting Federation
15. Ireland – Irish Clay Target Shooting Association
16. Ireland – Target Shooting Ireland
17. Iceland – Icelandic Shooting Sports Federation
18. Israel – Israel Shooting Federation
19. Kosovo – Shooting Sport Federation of Kosovo
20. Latvia – Latvian Shooting Federation
21. Liechtenstein – Liechtenstein Shooting Association
22. Lithuania – Lithuanian Shooting Sport Union
23. Luxembourg – Federation Luxembourgeoise de Tir aux Armes Sportives
24. Moldova – Shooting Federation of the Republic of Moldova
25. Macedonia – Macedonian Sport Shooting Federation
26. Malta – Malta Shooting Sport Federation
27. Monaco – Monaco Shooting Federation
28. Portugal – Portuguese Shooting Federation
29. Romania – Romanian Shooting Sport Federation
30. Slovakia – Slovak Shooting Federation
31. Turkey – Turkish Shooting and Hunting Federation
32. Ukraine – Ukrainian Shooting Federation

## ***15. Elections***

Before starting the elections, the Secretary General points out the several provisions of the ESC Statutes, in respect to the elections. In particular, articles 6.5.1, 6.5.2 and 6.5.3 that determine the voting procedures at the General Assembly. He proposes to hold the election of the President with paper ballots and all other elections by electronic voting.

The proposal of the Secretary General is put to vote.

Results of voting: 93 votes in favor and 2 votes against.

Decision: To hold the election of the President with paper ballots and all other elections by electronic voting.

After that the Scrutinizers are invited to proceed with the elections. They are joined by the ESC/ISSF legal adviser Mr. Christian Keidel.

### ***15.1 Election of the ESC President***

Mrs. Elena Allen (appointed President of the Scrutinizers) explains how the voting for the position of the ESC President is going to be organized. She reminds that there are two candidates: Mr. Alexander Ratner and Mr. Luciano Rossi and the delegates have to choose on the ballot only one of them.



Mr. Luciano Rossi requests the floor. He explains the main goals of his activity as the ESC President and requests the delegates to support his candidature.

After that Mr. Alexander Ratner also takes the floor and makes a detailed presentation of his program.

Mrs. Elena Allen reminds that according to article 6.6.6 of the ESC Constitution in the case of the election of the President an absolute majority of the valid votes cast (50 percent + 1 vote) is required, and according to article 6.6.7 the elections for the remaining places will be decided by simple majority.

The Scrutinizers start the procedure. After the voting is completed they announce the results:

Votes given: 95

Votes invalid: 0

Abstentions: 0

Votes valid: 95

Necessary majority: 48

Alexander Ratner: 52

Luciano Rossi: 43

**Decision:** Alexander Ratner is elected as the ESC President.

The newly elected ESC President Alexander Ratner thanks the delegates for their confidence and Mr. Luciano Rossi for taking part in the campaign. Due to the late time he proposes to postpone all other elections till the next day.

The proposal of the ESC President is unanimously accepted.

**October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 09:00**

### **15.2 Election of the ESC Vice-Presidents**

The President reminds that there have been 9 candidatures presented for 4 positions of the ESC Vice-Presidents – that of Yair Davidovich, Pekka Kuusisto, Petros Kyritsis, György Nagy, Egbert IJzerman, Lionel Cox, Håvard Larsen, Hans-Heinrich von Schönfels and John Hansen.

The President asks if any of the candidates wants to say something. Mr. Hans-Heinrich von Schönfels declares that he withdraws his candidacy.

Due to technical problems with the electronic voting, it is unanimously decided that the elections of the ESC Vice-Presidents are held with paper ballots.

The Scrutinizers start the procedure.

The President suggests that while the Scrutinizers will count the votes the delegates to continue with the General Assembly Agenda.

The proposal is unanimously accepted by the delegates.

**16. Update on the ESC/ISSF position to the ECHA proposal to restrict the use of lead in the shooting sport**

Mr. Jean-Francois Palinkas, President of FITASC, makes a detailed and concise presentation on the contribution of FITASC and ISSF/ESC in July 2020 – September 2021 prior to ECHA's decision regarding a possible call for restrictions on the use of lead at clay target shooting ranges.

**17. Information about the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Games in Poland**

The President informs the delegates that the ESC has a signed agreement with the European Olympic Committee (EOC) on the shooting sport representation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Games which will be organized in Poland. There should be 30 events – 12 individual, 6 Mixed Team and 12 Team – in the program. The total athletes' quota is 340. The European Games must be part of the Qualification for Paris 2024 with one Olympic quota place in each individual event.

Still, there is no agreement between the EOC and the Organizers. As soon as this agreement is signed the ESC will be able to proceed with the necessary further steps, including approval of the Qualification system, competitions schedule, appointment of officials etc.

The information is taken in consideration.

**15.2 Election of the ESC Vice-Presidents (continue)**

At this moment the Scrutinizers are ready to announce results of the voting for the positions of the ESC Vice-Presidents, which are the following:

Yair Davidovich – 55 votes

Pekka Kuusisto – 58 votes

Petros Kyritsis – 62 votes

György Nagy – 48 votes

Egbert IJzerman – 24 votes

Lionel Cox – 41 votes

Håvard Larsen – 37 votes

John Hansen – 36 votes

Decision: Yair Davidovich, Pekka Kuusisto, Petros Kyritsis, and György Nagy are elected as ESC Vice-Presidents.

## **15.2 Election of the Presidium members**

The President reminds that there are 14 candidates for 11 positions – that of Anna Leshchikova, Biserka Vrbek, Maria Zdravkova Grozdeva-Grigorova, Janine Kettels, Alexandros Dimakakos, Wilhelm Grill, Tamaz Imnaishvili, Egbert IJzerman, Hugues Senger, Lionel Cox, Ljubo Gerič, Håvard Larsen, John Hansen, and Beat Hunziker.

According to the new wording of the article 6.6.9 of the ESC Statutes “three positions within the Presidium must be reserved for each gender”. There are 4 female and 10 male candidates. In order to guarantee compliance with the Statutes, the President suggests to vote first on the female candidatures and have 3 of them elected. The 4<sup>th</sup> female non-elected candidate will then be added to the list of male candidatures and will have another chance to be elected. In the second round of voting there will be 11 candidates for 8 positions.

Decision: The proposal of the President is unanimously accepted.

In the first round of voting for the female members of the Presidium there are 4 candidatures for 3 positions: Anna Leshchikova, Biserka Vrbek, Maria Zdravkova Grozdeva-Grigorova, and Janine Kettels. As per previous decision of the Assembly, the voting is also held with paper ballots.

The Scrutinizers start the procedure.

After the ballots are distributed the President suggests to continue with the Agenda.

## **18. Decision on the Membership fees**

The President proposes to keep the same Membership fees for 2022-2023 as were before: 500 Euro per nation.

Decision: the Membership fees for 2022-2023 in the amount of 500 Euro per nation are unanimously approved.

## **19. Reports of the Organizing Committees of the European Championships:**

- 2022 ECH 10m, Hamar, Norway

Mr. Håvard Larsen, President of the Norwegian Sport Shooting Federation, makes the presentation.

Decision: To take the information in consideration.

- 2022 European Championship (25/50/300m/RT/Shotgun), Moscow Region, Russia

Mrs. Anna Leshchikova, President of the Russian Shooting Union, makes the presentation.

Decision: To take the information in consideration

- 2023 ECH 10m, Tallinn, Estonia

The President remarks that Mr. Meelis Loit, Secretary General of the Estonian Shooting Sport Federation, is engaged in the counting of the votes as member of the Scrutinizers, and is not able to make the report in person. But the preparations to the Championship are going on and the Presidium is controlling the situation. There are no worries till now.

Decision: To take the information in consideration

- 2023 European Championship Shotgun in Leobersdorf, Austria

Mr. Thomas Steinmueller, President of the Austria Shooting Federation Clay Target and Combined, makes the presentation.

Decision: To take the information in consideration

## **20. Voting on the Organizers of the European Championships in 2024-2025**

The President informs the delegates that originally there were two applications for the 2024 European Championship 10m - from Hungary and France as well as two applications for the 2025 European Championship 25/50/300m/RT/SH – from France and Italy. The application from Italy is not in line with the requirements of the ESC General Regulations and Mr. Luciano Rossi, FITAV President, withdrew it. It means that, now there is only one valid candidature for the 2025 European Championship 25/50/300m/RT/SH – that of the French Shooting Sport Federation.

The President invites Mr. Hugues Senger, delegate from the French Shooting Sport Federation, to make a presentation.

Mr. Hugues Senger demonstrates a video featuring the main provisions of organizing the 2025 European Championship in the National Shooting Sport Centre in Chateauroux.

After the presentation voting takes place.

Decision: The 2025 European Championship 25/50/300m/RT/SH to take place in Chateauroux, France.

Following the decision on the host of the 2025 European Championship 25/50/300m/RT/SH the French Shooting Sport Federation withdraws its application for the 2024 European Championship 10m, leaving Hungary as the only candidate.

Mr. György Nagy, President of the Hungarian Shooting Federation, take the floor and provides information on the conditions of holding the 2024 European Championship 10m in Győr.

After the presentation voting takes place.

Decision: The 2024 European Championship 10m to take place in Győr, Hungary.

The President remarks that the only application left is the FITAV application for the 2024 European Championship Shotgun to be held in Lonato del Garda, but it does not comply with requirements of the ESC General Regulations and the proposed dates are very close to Paris

2024 Olympic Games. Besides, FITAV applied also for the 2024 ISSF World Cup and it is difficult to figure out now how two competitions can be organized in the same place, in the same year, if both of them are to be part of the qualification for Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

He suggests to postpone the decision on the FITAV application until the Qualification system for Paris 2024 Olympic Games is confirmed.

Voting takes place.

Decision: To postpone the decision on the FITAV application for the 2024 European Championship Shotgun and authorize the Presidium to take the decision at a later time in consultation with FITAV which has to decide which of the two competitions will be interested to organize in 2024.

### **15.2 Election of the Presidium members (continue)**

At this moment the Scrutinizers are ready to announce the results of the voting for the positions of the three female Presidium members:

Anna Leshchikova – 47 votes.

Biserka Vrbek – 80 votes;

Maria Zdravkova Grozdeva - Grigorova –71 votes;

Janine Kettels – 66 votes

Decision: Biserka Vrbek, Maria Grozdeva - Grigorova, and Janine Kettels are elected as the ESC Presidium members. Anna Leschchikova is to be included in the list for the second round of voting.

In the second round of voting there are 14 candidatures for 11 positions – that of Anna Leschchikova, Alexandros Dimakakos, Wilhelm Grill, Tamaz Imnaishvili, Egbert IJzerman, Hugues Senger, Lionel Cox, Ljubo Germič, Håvard Larsen, John Hansen, and Beat Hunziker.

The voting is also held with paper ballots.

At this point the President suggests to hold first the elections for the other elective positions and then to vote on the remaining positions of the Presidium and announce the results of the elections at the closing of the General Assembly.

The proposal is unanimously accepted by the delegates.

### **15.2 Election of the Auditors**

There are 2 candidatures for two positions of the Auditors – that of Siegfried Boeck and Massimo Baiamonte.

The President suggests conducting a common voting in order to elect both candidates simultaneously.

Voting takes place.

Decision: Siegfried Boeck and Massimo Baiamonte are elected as the ESC Auditors.

### ***15.2 Election of the Anti-Doping Officers***

There are 3 candidates for the positions of the Anti-Doping Officer – that of Dr. Patrice Dandine, Ivan Gotsmanov, and Francesco Eduardo Fazi.

The President suggests to elect all 3 candidates with one voting.

Voting takes place.

Decision: Dr. Patrice Dandine, Ivan Gotsmanov, and Francesco Eduardo Fazi are elected as ESC Anti-Doping Officers.

### ***15.2 Election of the Chairman of the Technical Committee***

There are 2 candidates for the position of the Chairman of the Technical Committee – that of Ghislaine Briez and Daniele Angelo Ghelfi.

The President proposes an open vote which is unanimously accepted.

Result of the voting:

Ghislaine Briez– 82 votes

Daniele Angelo Ghelfi– 11 votes

Decision: Ghislaine Briez is re-elected as the Chairman of the Technical Committee

### ***15.2 Election of the Presidium members (continue)***

After that Scrutinizers start distributing the ballots for the second round of elections for the 8 positions in the ESC Presidium and voting takes place.

After the counting of the votes is completed, the results are announced as follows:

Anna Leshchikova – 46 votes

Alexandros Dimakakos – 54 votes

Wilhelm Grill – 69 votes

Tamaz Imnaishvili – 60 votes

Egbert IJzerman – 41 votes

Hugues Senger – 50 votes

Lionel Cox – 45 votes

Ljubo Germič – 38 votes

Håvard Larsen – 54 votes

John Hansen – 39 votes

Beat Hunziker – 38 votes

Decision: Anna Leschchikova, Alexandros Dimakakos, Wilhelm Grill, Tamaz Imnaishvili, Egbert IJzerman, Hugues Senger, Lionel Cox, and Håvard Larsen are elected as the 8 remaining members of the ESC Presidium.

The XXVIII Ordinary General Assembly closed at 14:30.

*Minutes Committee*