



**Europe
Athlétisme
Promotion**

24th ANNUAL CONGRESS



BIELLA 7-8-9 November 2014

MINUTES OF THE 24th CONGRESS

Saturday November 8th, 2014

9:00 Official start of EAP 2014 Congress

Official speech by the EAP President Noël Levêque



Noël Levêque opens the 24th EAP Congress talking about the current social, economic and political crisis that strokes whole Europe. This congress may result in being the most important one in the EAP history since its foundation.

During the previous congress, it has been established that a new development line should be undertaken. Several progresses have been reached since 1990, but there is still room of improvement. We should not feel satisfied of a small step of our in the important level of athletics, but we should stand as a reliable alternative of athletics itself, by creating a close group focused on reaching our goals, working hard on important issues and taking important decisions for the sake of them.

All the participating delegations are thanked, and above all Biella friends are thanked for the great organization provided.

Not forgetting the terrible influence the current crisis bestows on the organizational activities, it is very important to focus on the future, how to provide alternative athletics to Europe, paying great attention on our athletes and on our young generations in order to pave the way for all of the organizations of the EAP Meetings.

Furthermore, as President I would like to remind to the participants that next congress will be the 25th, an important date that hopefully will mark a change towards a better direction for the EAP.

Welcome speech by the organizer of the Congress and meeting with local authorities.

Vichy Meliga, Biella A.S.D. BUGELLA SPORT president, thanked all the participants, in particular those who faced a long trip to attend the meeting. For the sake of a better comprehension of the contents of the topics, the organizer provided some people to translate almost simultaneously the discussions either in English or in French (EAP official language).



Eventually, Teresa Barresi, council member for Sports of the municipality of Biella, stepped in and, welcoming all the guests, made her best wishes for a good work.

Participating and missing EAP members.

Participating Members:

1. Nivelles (Levêque Noël and Smeets Micheline)
2. Celle Ligure (Ferrando Giorgio and Marrapodi Giorgio)
3. Genève (Cassina Pablo)
4. Palafrugel (Massa Josep)
5. Namur (Halloy Cristian)
6. Dour (Gérard Chantal and Marredda Elena)
7. Valence (Sahuc Gilles and Doumeng Nicolas)
8. Aosta (Ottoz Eddy e Calvesi Lyana)
9. Donnas (Perotto Hermes and Ratto Cristina)
10. Biella (Meliga Vichy and Sodaro Luciana)
11. Hexham (Hunter Richard)
12. Loughborough (Dakin Nick)
13. Leiria (Pereira Daniel and Correia Diogo)
14. Budapest (Teglassy Timea and Korompai Peter)
15. Amsterdam (Mabbut Amelie)
16. Pavia (Putzu Antonio)
17. Riga (Blusina Ieva and Viksna Dina)
18. Kuldīga (Kimbors Agris, Ratnieks Gatis and Pupols Normunds)

Missing delegations:

- Hull (Due to air transfer difficulties)
- Novi Sad (not registered to the congress)
- Bilbao (Due to professional duties)
- Chambéry (Due to professional duties)

16 delegations with rights of vote. Dour and Valence, indeed, were invited only to apply for their membership starting from year 2015. Therefore, they cannot vote as they were not member yet.

Approval of 2013 EAP Congress memorandum

It was put to the attention of the congress that the 2013 minutes presented many lacks in its contents, besides being carried out with a long delay and only in its English version.

The minutes of the 2013 Congress in Hexham cannot then be approved. The congress asks to Mr Hunter to provide completion and send it to the Internal Commission before end of December 2014, for first approval.

Presentation of the meetings which applied for the EAP circuit 2015 membership

The participating delegations presented their meeting with the help of figures and videos. In particular:

1. Dour (BEL)

The club, founded in 1964 counts now 220 member athletes, proposes an indoor meeting (sprint festival) including 60m track competition, 60m hurdles competition scheduled for February 7th, 2015;. Dour was already an EAP member and ten EAP meetings had been organized in Dour until 2010.

The event would feature a DJ, 1 or 2 commentators and broadcast coverage.

In 2014, almost 200 athletes participated.

The track, IAAF approved, was renewed in 2012 and it is considered to be a very fast one; the indoor hall can host up to 250-300 people.

It is well connected to the highway, whereas Bruxelles and Lille airports are about 90-70 km away from the site. A pick-up/drop-off service would be provided.

Quality and Dour's athletes performances were the main motivations provided to sponsor their application for the meeting, besides the great opportunity this event may have for the athletes at international level and the expertise in the organization of the event the members of the Belgian delegation can provide.

The 2014 budget, not considering sunk costs, was €13.650,00.

It is expected the participation of the local Press and Media to broadcast the event.

2. Valence (FRA)

EARV is an important club founded in 2007. It comprehends three sections in the nearby 15km, and can count on almost 900 member athletes.

In 2014, 327 attended the meeting, with 27 performances beyond 1000pts. And an overall score of almost 70.000pts. on the IAAF scoring table

The meeting is proposed for June 20th, 2015 and will feature almost all the events, from sprint (200m) to Hurdles (400H), mid-distance races (800; 2000; 5000), men's high and long jump, women's pole vault and triple jump, both men's and women's hammer, disk and shot put.

Valence can be reached by car, by train (3 hours from Geneva) and the closest airport is Lyon's St.-Exupéry (30 minutes by car) or Marseille (one hour by car).

The club is well-structured, it can rely on several volunteers and on a good expertise in athletics meetings management.

Motivations: to sponsor Valence; create an occasion to share ideas and experiences among foreign athletes, organizers and trainers; give a chance to Valence athletes to know foreign athletes and promote EAP philosophy.

3. Leiria (POR)

The club was founded in 1992 and in the last 12 years has been among Portugal's top clubs. The Clubs facilities are well structured and it can rely on almost 100 volunteers and a well-trained staff, organized according to the different requirements.

The expected budget for 2015 meeting would amount to €8.000,00.

Partners of the event are, among the others a local TV station and a local radio station. Part of the budget is aimed to the promotion and broadcast of the event.

The meeting will last two days (from August 8th to 9th) and will feature all the throwing events for all the categories (even under 15).

Motivations for the applications are linked to the goal of strengthen the international feature of the meeting, relying on Leiria's experience, hosting quality, and the uniqueness of this meeting inside EAP circuit.

Remarks on proposed applications

The only remark is linked to the fact that, during Leiria meeting, it has been outlined that the track had not been approved yet. The organizers assured it would be obtained soon.

Polls results

The congress unanimously approved the three proposed meetings and the two new delegations (i.e. Dour and Valence) are welcomed as EAP members.

Analysis of the new 2014 meeting organizations and focus on EAP rights and duties; concise assessment about the new members based on self-evaluation forms.

-Gateshead

Richard Hunter confirmed the problems he had to face in the process of locating his meeting, which eventually was held at the Manchester stadium, without the proper communication of the event itself to the EAP circuit. For this reason, maybe, some delegations of the circuit were missing although some Canadian athletes participated.

-Leiria

According to the Portuguese delegates, it was a good meeting, which took place regularly and with good results.

-Hull

Even though the delegation did not participate to the congress, Giorgio Ferrando (Celle Ligure) complained about the poor quality of the welcoming. In fact, an athlete from Liguria, who had previously renounced to participate at some important events (after being assured of a reimbursement for the transfer to Hull), was denied the promised refunding.

-Novi Sad

The delegation was not participating at the congress. Their meeting, unfortunately, had to be cancelled due to the flood in all the Serbia, (declared natural catastrophe) .

Assessment of the organizers who claimed about difficulties (e.g. organization; budget; calendar; respect of the EAP principles, etc) occurred during their meetings.

- **Hexham** (=> Manchester)
The meeting took place in Manchester to gain in visibility and easiness of the transfers processes. No EAP delegations participated but some Canadians athletes participated.
- **Aosta**
Aosta meeting did not take place because, as explained by the delegate Eddy Ottoz, the council of Saint-Christophe municipality, which had previously granted the permission to use the stadium, notified that the Stadium had been eventually taken for the World Championship of backwards run (!?!). Having no other sites where to organize the event, the club of Valle d'Aosta was forced to cancel the meeting.
- **Novi Sad**
As aforementioned, due to the flooding, the meeting could not be organized.
- **Hull**
The meeting outlined logistics problems for the EAP delegations, due to the high costs of the transfer process from the airport to the stadium. An alternative way could be the transfer by boat, but times and costs would not be feasible.
Moreover, the problem previously mentioned by the delegate from Celle Ligure, and the unexcused absence of the Hull delegation, did not bestow favorable opinions on the permanence of this delegation in the EAP.
Cristian Halloy (EAP treasurer) added the fact that the 2013 registration fee had not been paid
- **Donnas**
About Donnas meeting, Cristian Halloy (Namur) stated that, even if well-organised as usual, this meeting lost a bit of its EAP relevance because of its increasing commitments towards a more international character.
The worst complaint, though, was represented by the bad behavior of some Dutch athletes at night time in the rooms offered by the event organization staff. Unfortunately, it was not the first time similar facts occurred carried by Dutch athletes, in Donnas.
Some years ago, huge damages occurred to the furniture and the bed rooms, while this year, as confirmed by Hermes Perotto (Donnas), no damage were reported.
An investigation aimed at identifying whether the guilty parts are the same athletes for all the situations lamented, is in action. Namur delegate asked for a tough sanction against such facts, averse to EAP principles and logics. Eddy Ottoz, Aosta spokesman, suggested one year sanction to

the Dutch delegation and its exclusion for the same period from the EAP events. Explanations were asked to Amelie Mabbutt (agent of the Dutch delegation), who, while condemning these facts, deemed excessive such a solution suggested by Eddy Ottoz, since it had been an action of few people, not of all the delegation. Furthermore, she stated that no complaints had been reported by Donnas organization of the event. The identification of the people responsible of the offence and the their consequent exclusion from future EAP meetings was suggested as a better solution.

The congress after what discussed so far, put the matter to the vote and unanimously approved as hereby listed:

- 1) Failing to comprehend and put into action EAP spirit, Hull delegation was excluded from EAP circuit. However, the pending 2013 registration fee is required.
- 2) The assembly notified the suspension from organizing the 2015 meeting for Donnas, keeping it available for the 2016 meeting organization. A reduced 2015 membership fee was requested, for this transitional year.
- 3) Dutch athletes responsible of the bad behavior shown at Donnas meeting are banned from all EAP meeting. Dutch delegate, Amelie Mabbutt was appointed to notify this current congress' decision to the athletes.

Congress with the athletes from Biella

Some athletes from Biella of national and international level were invited to the congress and made their speech to the delegations. They represent the past, the present, and the future of Biella athletics:

1. Elisabetta Perrone

GOLD and SILVER medals - Mediterranean Games (1997, in Bari and 2001, in Tunis)
SILVER medal – 1996 Olympic Games, Atlanta (USA)
SILVER medal – 1995 Goteborg (Sweden) Word Cup
BRONZE medal – 2001 Edmonton (Canada) Word Cup

2. Nadia Ejjafini

2014 – GOLD at Zurich Team European Championship
2nd placed at Albufeira Cross Champions Cup
2012 – Olympic participation in the fields of 5000 and 10000
2011 - three italian titles: cross, 5000 and half marathon
4th placed at European Cross Championship, in Velenje

3. Valeria Roffino

Started the activity in 2001
16 Italian titles among which 1 absolute category (2014) in the field of 3000 m Steeple
12 Italian national team caps, 4 absolute categories
5th placed at Poland European Championship in the 3000 Steeple junior category
23rd placed at the Budapest under 23 European Cross Championships



At 1:00pm the traditional group photo was taken outside the hotel underneath the EAP flag.

Special communications by some of the organizers related to year 2015

- **Celle Ligure**
Giorgio Ferrando communicated that it would be impossible to organize the meeting in Celle Ligure, since the track could no more grant the conditions to host athletics events. Therefore, it is expected to move to Boissano (Savona province) and therefore to organize the meet on a two days basis: one for the junior categories (EAP future); one for the seniors.
- **Donnas**
Hermes Perotto announced with regret that in 2015 the traditional “via col vento” meet would not be organized. Among the reasons, besides those related to the economic aspects, the necessity to “take a breath for one year”...
- **Geneva**
Pablo Cassina communicated to the congress that, starting from next year, for professional reasons, he would not be able to take care in person of the organization of Geneva meeting, but that he would still maintain his role inside the circuit. Walter Zecca has been named president and will be the organizer.

Provisional calendar of 2015 EAP meetings

Each delegation proposed their dates concerning their respective EAP events, therefore here are listed the provisional dates:

17 - 01 - 2015	SATURDAY	KULDIGA (LAT)
07 - 02 - 2015	SATURDAY	DOUR (BEL)
03 - 05 - 2015	SUNDAY	PAVIA (ITA)
27 - 05 - 2015	FRIDAY	NAMUR (BEL)
28 - 05 - 2015	WEDNESDAY	RIGA (LAT)
06 - 06 - 2015	SATURDAY	PALAFRUGELL (ESP)
06 - 06 - 2015	SATURDAY	GENEVE (SUI)
13 - 06 - 2015	SATURDAY	BUDAPEST (HUN)
20 - 06 - 2015	SATURDAY	VALENCE (FRA)
20 - 06 - 2015	SATURDAY	BILBAO (ESP)
27 - 06 - 2015	SATURDAY	NIVELLES (BEL)
27 - 06 - 2015	SATURDAY	BIELLA (ITA)
30 - 06 - 2015	TUESDAY	CELLE LIGURE (ITA)
01 - 07 - 2015	WEDNESDAY	BOISSANO (ITA)
05 - 07 - 2015	SUNDAY	CHAMBERY (FRA)
12 - 07 - 2015	SUNDAY	AOSTA (ITA)
18 - 07 - 2015	SATURDAY	LOUGHBOROUGH (UK)
25/26 - 07 - 2015	SATURDAY/SUNDAY	HEXHAM or MANCHESTER (UK)
08/09 - 08 - 2015	SATURDAY/SUNDAY	LEIRIA (POR)
05 - 09 - 2015	SATURDAY	AMSTERDAM (NED)

Communication and promotion of EAP

Report by Pablo Cassina:

EAP can rely on visibility on the web with its own website; the mobile web app, Facebook; Twitter; and other social media like Flickr and paper.li.

The website is consistently and regularly updated, same for the Facebook page. It is here highlighted the synergy with Vinco Sport and the links containing records of the meetings. The assembly is advised that the publication of pictures on the social media must be denied and blocked in order to limit the contents.

A mobile web application freely downloadable from EAP website has also been developed. It is desirable to keep on promoting the EAP on the social media also in the year 2015.

The assembly of this congress approved unanimously and Pablo Cassina was reconfirmed.

Outcomes of Amelie Mabbutt's (Amsterdam) inquiry

The committee thanked Amelie Mabbutt for her support shown in drafting the inquiry, even though not all the participants filled it. Some topics were already taken into consideration during the works of this congress.

Establishment of 4 work groups

GROUP 1 (Leiria and Palafrugell):

Looking for sponsorship/s for the EAP Circuit

Goal: The creation of a committee and the establishment of targets.



Relator: Daniel Pereira (Leiria)

Three steps- proposal:

- a) To analyse the strengths and weaknesses of EAP
- b) To learn and improve by comparing with other organizations
- c) To draft a document to be presented to a limited number of possible sponsors in order to reach an agreement at EAP level (e.g. similar to the one with Vinco). Daniel himself took the charge of the the development of such a project. Ideally, an endorser working in the travel services would be the best candidate.

GROUP 2 (Nivelles, Namur, Dour, Valence, Geneva, Donnas, Hermes Perotto):

Structure and body of the EAP: committee, decisional and advisory authorities, finances and promotions.

Goal: The proposition of new ideas and of an organizational chart.



Relator: Halloy Christian (Namur)

It was highlighted that EAP legal head office coincided with the domicile of the President. A move was therefore suggested.

It was proposed to extend the participation at the executive works to the Treasurer and to the current and future congresses Hosting organizations presidents.

It was pointed out the spirit of free association of such a committee, which features only one paid member (Pablo), given his efforts for the sake of the coordination of the communication activities.

GROUP 3 (Celle Ligure, Pavia, Donnas, Cristina Ratto, Aosta, Biella, Riga, Kuldiga):

Level of the performances at EAP meetings: who are they addressed to? What does differ EAP from the other meetings?

Goal: To define the (qualitative) role and the performances of the EAP meeting in Europe.



The group focused on the visibility of the ranking of the different meetings.

It was proposed to consider these below listed categories:

1. Indoor
2. Outdoor:
 - a. Meetings with more than 6 competitions
 - b. Junior
 - c. All the remaining meetings

It was stated the importance of carrying on the EAP message with to objective of continuing improvement, even though reality portrays a situation of a lack of available funds, poor conditions of the tracks and less athletes participating to the events.

Pablo (Geneva) in particular stressed the necessity of establishing a minimum amount of disciplines and of athletes, participating at each one of them, for the meetings.

GROUP 4 (Amsterdam, Loughborough, Hexham, Budapest):

Goal: Code of conduct during the EAP meetings



It was proposed the introduction of a registration process on the website by inserting the name of the athletes in order to inform and give visibility of their participation to their respective EAP delegation. It was reminded that the organization and its supervisor hosting a meeting are reliable for any negative facts or behaviour occurring, which must eventually be communicated by filling a form to better assess the seriousness of the offences in terms of noise, damages, aggressiveness. The establishment of a control committee appointed to examine such warnings is recommended, bestowing on such committee the power to ratify sanctions when suitable. Amelie took charge of drafting the form.

Report of the EAP treasurer, Cristian Halloy.

EAP treasurer distributed to the single delegations the analytical balance for the year 2014, giving full visibility in case further requirements arose.

2014 BALANCE SHEET			
Revenues		Expenses	
Contributions	€ 3.445,00	Postal charges	€ 287,55
		Invoices	€ 5.414,90
		Scouts	€ 1.560,95
Subtotal	€ 3.445,00		€ 7.263,40
2013 Balance Sheet	€ 4.106,86		
Interests	€ 32,21		
Overall Total	€ 7.584,07		€ 7.263,40
2014 Balance		€ 320,67	

After the check, it resulted that the Hull delegation, Which joined the circuit in 2013, has not paid its fee, same as Chambéry delegation, which instead assured they would pay both of their fees as soon as possible.

It was pointed out the high fee paid to the scouts, and it was suggested to stop paying the transfers to the scouts who accompanied their own athletes to the meetings (since the organization of the events already pays in these cases the transfers) and to avoid long transfers for the scouts.

As a consequence, it was decided that the Congress will appoint the scouts choosing preferably among associates coming from different countries in comparison the country where the meeting is hold.

Scouts would then be asked to fill in a form with data about the development of a particular event, sending it to the Committee at the end of the meeting.

The organizer will bear the accommodation expenses of the scout whereas the transfer will be paid by the EAP, unless the scout is a member of one of the delegations participating at the event.

Another proposal made by the Treasurer and approved by the congress was to increase the fees starting from next year. Hence, starting from next year the registration fee will increase as follows: €200,00 + € 150,00 for new members (to be paid only the first year).

During the coffee break, the traditional exchange of gifts and gadgets among the delegations took place.



General guidelines of the circuit

Donnas delegation proposed a revision of norms and guidelines of the circuit, based on an analysis of current updated and modifications, discussed during this congress:

- Introduction of a new category of members, seniors (such as Palafrugell and Namur) right after the founders;
- Representation and vote systems during the congress;
- Guidelines on how to coordinate a congress;
- Creation of an executive committee (CDE), made of a fixed component (Noel Leveque, Pablo Cassina, and Giorgio Ferrando, as founding members of EAP); Josep Massa and Christian Halloy, representative of the senior meetings aforementioned (Palafrugell and Namur); and a variable component made of the organizers of the current year meeting and those of the following year meeting;
- Definition of roles; rights and duties;
- Hospitality of the EAP delegations, limits, contributions, refunds: Hermes Perotto proposed an ideal set of refunds based on the distances in Kms for every single transfers; the contributions generated by the work done; and some other details. This proposal could be approved by the committee and exploited in the next meetings;
- Draft of a chart with regards to deadlines concerning meetings, congresses, and new associates.

The committee would take into exam the proposals promoted during the congress in order to draft new rules to be presented at next EAP meeting.

Report by the observers of 2014 meetings

- a) **Observer** Josep Massa (Palafrugell)
Meeting in Biella
Nice and juvenile; good organization; presence of two foreign EAP delegations and other two Italian delegations.
Meeting in Gateshead
Only events related to jumping fields; good organization and nice experience. It is advisable to repeat it.
- b) **Observer** Nick Dakin (Loughborough)
Meeting in Chambery
Nice experience, long times for the transfer by shuttle
- c) **Observer** Timea Teglassy (Budapest)
Meeting in Palafrugell
Coincident with the Catalonia Championship; English translation not available; no medals were distributed, Good means of transfer and accommodation,
Meeting in Celle Ligure

Very amazing the part dedicated to the beach activities; Nice presentation of the athletes and of the meeting with local population.

Unfortunately, the track conditions were poor.

Excellent meeting for the athletes with music; good means of transfer and accommodation.

Meeting in Geneva

Everything very good

Meeting in Leiria

Magnificent stadium; good broadcast of information; and good organization.

- d) **Observer** Amelie Mabbutt (Amsterdam)

Meeting in Budapest

EAP advertisement not visible; high level meeting with nice atmosphere and a nice awards ceremony.

- e) **Observer** Giorgio Ferrando (Celle Ligure)

Meeting in Kuldiga

Problems with the translation and limited access to the screens; more EAP flags are recommended. Lots of audience and very well prepared. Remarkable the presence of officers and assistants of young age (positive remark); great hotel. Very good organization.

Proposals and confirmations concerning the locations of next annual EAP congresses

In 2015, the 25th congress will take place. Given the importance of the event, Nivelles delegation (of which the current EAP President is a member) asked to exchange the organization of it with the one scheduled for Amsterdam.

The Congress approved. Therefore, next congress will be hold:

2015 NIVELLES (BEL)
2016 AMSTERDAM (NED)
2017 BUDAPEST (HUN)
2018 VALENCE (FRA)

Classification of 2014 meets

Josep Massa (Palafrugell) showed the data of all the EAP Meetings, according to the selfevaluation forms which had been filled in by each delegation and according to the results of the performances in the different categories.

ANNO	PUNTI	MEETING	NZIONE	DATA	NOTE
2014	RANKING PROVVISORIO				
<i>Outdoor & Indoor</i>					
1	78751	GINEVRA	SVIZZERA	14 giugno	
2	75753	NIVELLES	BELGIO	30 giugno	
3	75198	BILBAO	SPAGNA	21 giugno	
4	74529	RIGA	LETTONIA	29 maggio	
5	72061	PALAFRUGELL	SPAGNA	31 maggio	
6	71551	BUDAPEST	UNGHERIA	16 giugno	
7	70698	NAMUR	BELGIO	28 maggio	
8	69434	LEIRIA	PORTOGALLO	7 giugno	
9	65111	KULDIGA	LETTONIA	18 gennaio	INDOOR / 67 performances
10	53857	CELLE LIGURE	ITALIA	26 giugno	Meeting giovanile ed assoluto
11	24153	GATESHEAD	GRAN BRETAGNA	15 marzo	INDOOR / 31 performances
12	21744	BIELLA	ITALIA	28 luglio	Meeting giovanile
13	16752	CHAMBERY	FRANCIA	6 luglio	17 performances
14	9948	PAVIA	ITALIA	5 maggio	10 performances
ZZ	xxx	DONNAS	ITALIA	13 luglio	
ZZ	xxx	LOUGHBOROUGH	GRAN BRETAGNA	19 luglio	
ZZ	xxx	AMSTERDAM	OLANDA	22 agosto	
ZZ	xxx	NOVI-SAD	SERBIA	30 agosto	
ZZ	xxx	HEXHAM	GRAN BRETAGNA	30-31 agosto	combined events
ZZ	xxx	HULL	GRAN BRETAGNA	31 agosto	
ZZ	xxxx	AOSTA	ITALIA	cancellato nel 2014	Meeting giovanile
<i>Solo Indoor</i>					
1	65111	KULDIGA	LETTONIA	18 gennaio	67 performances
1	65111	GATESHEAD	GRAN BRETAGNA	15 marzo	31 performances

After this congress' works, next classification will be submitted dividing all the meetings as established by the working group.

OFFICIAL DINNER OF THE EAP 2014 CONGRESS



P.D. At the start of the works on Sunday morning, the delegations from Leiria (POR), Riga (LAT), and Kuldiga (LAT) did not take part, with the justification by the assembly, for a matter of scheduled flights and transfers.

END OF THE 2014 EAP 24TH CONGRESS

It will be a pleasure to meet you again next year in Nivelles, from November 6th through 8th, 2015, in occasion of EAP 25th congress