

MINUTES OF THE 25TH CONGRESS

Nivelles (Belgium) 6th-7th-8th November 2015



The 25th congress starts with the « welcome speech » by the organizing club, the CABW, delivered by Micheline Smeets.

In his introductory speech, Noël Levêque, President of the Europe Athletics Promotion Circuit, evokes the 25th anniversary of the EAP, founded in 1990 and of its 1st congress in Genoa in 1992. He also reminds us of the fair-play spirit and the human exchanges, which characterize all our meetings.

1. Presence of the members :

Amsterdam (NED): Amelie Mabbut.
Biella (ITA): Vichy Meliga
Budapest (HUN): Tímea Téglássy, István Adorján.
Celle Ligure (ITA): Giorgio Ferrando, Giorgio Marrapodi.
Donnas (ITA) + Aosta : Hermes Perotto and Cristina Ratto.
Dour (BEL): Chantal Gerard, Elena Marredda.
Genève (SWI): Pablo Cassina, Walter Zecca.
Hexham (GB): Richard Hunter.
Leiria (POR): Diogo Correia.
Loughborough (GB): Nick Dakin.
Namur (BEL): Christian Halloy, Serge Moreaux.
Nivelles (BEL): Noël Levêque, Françoise Dethier and Micheline Smeets.
Palafrugell (SP): Josep Massa.
Pavia (ITA): Antongiulio Putzu.
Riga (LAT) + Kuldiga : Gatis Ratnieks.
Valence (FRA): Nicolas Doumeng, Vincent Aubin.

Absents : Bilbao (SP) Chambéry (FRA)

17 members are represented.

Candidates: Aarhus (DEN) : Mikkel Larsen and ...



2. Exclusion of the members :

After some debate, the members vote the exclusion of :

- *Chambéry* for its absence at 2 consecutive congresses and no information given concerning the planning for 2016.
13 votes against Chambéry, 1 vote for Chambéry and 3 abstentions.
 - *Bilbao* for its absence at 2 consecutive congresses and for failing to pay its membership fee for 2015.
Palafrugell could have represented Bilbao but they didn't ask.
7 votes against, 5 votes for and 5 abstentions.
- Those 2 organizations will be allowed to join the circuit again by applying at the next congress. Bilbao has to pay its debt within 15 days.

Aosta meeting receives a warning for failing to attend the congress and has to be present in 2016.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2014 EAP congress :

The minutes, written in 3 languages by Biella, are approved.



4. Presentation of the EAP candidates for 2016 :

Amsterdam (NDL) : presentation done by Amelie Mabbuth.

They gave up the "Flames games" meeting because the first attempt wasn't satisfactory; moreover, the city will host the European Championships in July 2016 and so, they will receive less funding.

That's why the club applies for an indoor meeting which should take place in 2017; a first event will probably take place in February 2016 but Amélie feels that the deadline is too short to join the circuit at that time.

This organization has already been granted a budget of 7000 € and is still looking for possible extra sponsors.

There will be a gym with six 77-meter-long lanes, a stand for 150 people and a room where 400 people will be able to attend the meeting.
Amsterdam will host a few EAP athletes for the 2016 edition.

Aarhus Nordic Challenge (Den): presented by Mikkel Larsen.
Outdoor meeting organized on the 25th of June 2016 (2nd edition). They had 360 participants in 2015. A new track and stadium for 20000 people; it will host the European Masters Championship in 2017. Aarhus is also a town with 325000 inhabitants, which will be the European capital of culture in 2017. Therefore, the meeting will be granted a budget of 30000 €. They wish for a meeting where they can welcome young athletes both national and international as well as senior athletes, among whom, some international participants. It is situated next to some airports and close to the hotels and there is a separated warming track nearby as well.

Decision of the congress members: both organizations are accepted unanimously.

5. Analysis of the new 2015 meetings:

Dour :

Positive assessment. 4 EAP delegations were present (Nivelles, Celle, Leiria, Budapest). They would like to increase the number of foreign athletes thanks to more adverts; they also wish they could have a better communication with the other international meetings which take place at the same time (Ghent e.g.)
Their sponsors should remain the same for the coming years.
The facilities and track will be renovated in spring 2016.
They want to favour and keep the informal side of their meeting.

Valence :

4 EAP delegations were there (Nivelles, Leiria, Geneva, Chambéry).
The races were delayed because a hurdle was missing for the 400m hurdles, they noticed it before the beginning of the first race.
In 2016, the programme will be changed to take the direction of the wind into account: so, the 100m will be run in the other direction, and there won't be any 200m race anymore, the longer races (middle-distance running) will be scheduled later in the evening.
The travel expenses were reimbursed too late to the foreign delegations, it will be done on the day of the meeting in 2016.
They should send the invitations and answer their mails faster in the future.

Leiria :

7 EAP athletes present.
The timetable should be changed to avoid the overlapping of two throwing events.
They promise to provide arbour and water for the athletes if it is too hot.

6. Requirements concerning the respect of the EAP rules :

Pablo reminds us to respect the invitation deadlines for the other EAP members, i.e. 2 months before the event and a reminder 40 days before the event. The athletes can be accepted up to 30 days before the meeting.
We shouldn't forget to advertise the EAP circuit (banners, flags, radio announcements when an EAP athlete is taking part in the competition).
See the EAP charter (rights and duties) joined below.

7. Special announcements of some organizers for 2015:

No comment.

8. EAP calendar 2016 :

- **16 January 2016**, Saturday - **Kuldiga** Catherina Cup 2016.
- **14 February 2016**, Sunday - **Dour** Sprint Festival - Fête du sprint.
- **08 May 2016**, Sunday - **Pavia** 14° Meeting Memorial "Graziano Della Valle".
- **25 May 2016**, Wednesday - **Namur** 20e ATLETISSIMA NAMUR 2016.
- **28 May 2016**, Saturday - **Palafrugell** XXIV Meeting Internacional d'Atletisme - Costa Brava.
- **31 May 2016**, Tuesday - **Riga** Cup 2016.
- **11 June 2016**, Saturday - **Genève** 29th AtletiCA Genève.
- **18 June 2016**, Saturday - **Budapest** Open 2016.
- **18 June 2016**, Saturday - **Valence** Meeting international.
- **18 June 2016**, Saturday - **Nivelles** 30th Meeting international Lotto.
- **25 June 2016**, Saturday - **Aarhus** Nordic Challenge.
- **25 June 2016**, Saturday - **Biella** XII Meeting internazionale giovanile "Il gomito di lana".
- **16 July 2016**, Saturday - **Loughborough** LEAP 2016.
- **16-17 July 2016**, Saturday, Sunday - **Hexham** Combined events 2016.
- **30-31 July 2016**, Saturday, Sunday - **Leiria** Throwing tournament 2016.
- **31 July 2016**, Sunday - **Aosta** 12° Meeting internazionale giovanile "Sprint & Hurdles".
- **28 August 2016**, Sunday - **Donnas** Via col Vento 2016.
- **28-29 September 2016**, Thursday - **Celle Ligure - Boissano** 28° Meeting Arcobaleno AtleticaEuropa / Meeting Boissano.

Other events of the EAP members :

- Indoor sprint / hurdles in Aosta 17th January 2016.
- Possible Indoor meeting in Genoa : 23/24 January or 6th or 7th February 2016.
- Amsterdam Indoor meeting : 7th or 8th February 2016.
- Pavia half-marathon : 1st October 2016.
- Aosta half-marathon : 6th November 2016.

9. Communication and promotion :

- Pablo Cassina makes a summary concerning the different communication media : Facebook, Twitter, Flickr,...
- We shouldn't forget to inform Pablo in due time about the information, documents and pictures that we want to be posted on the different social networks.
- VincoSport-EAP-TV : We've been working with them for 2 years but this year only 3 meetings (Geneva, Palafrugell and Loughborough) made use of it although the agreement had been made for 7 meetings.
Some meetings have their own broadcasting system or a special agreement with the local TV networks which can't compete with Vinco !
The yearly costs for EAP-TV amount to 1000 € + the travelling and accommodation expenses of the technician(s).
In Palafrugell, the plane ticket had been bought quite late, and the costs were much higher than expected. Moreover, there was a broadcasting problem for the live coverage.
In Celle, everything had been planned but, due to communication problem, it had to be cancelled.
- The members debate about a further collaboration with them or not.
Giorgio's proposal is accepted by the members: Those who are still interested will personally get in touch with Vincosport.
The EAP won't pay the yearly fee anymore.

Pablo has inquired about the costs for 2016 : 280 €/day and an extra 120 €/person + travelling and accommodation expenses.

- We shouldn't forget to communicate with the other members through the website. We mustn't forget to use the EAP logo and make it visible on the flyers, sites, podiums, etc...
It's compulsory to place at least one "banderole" near the podium.
Giorgio proposes to make a flyer with the full EAP calendar but it will only be useful for the first events!
That's why Pablo proposes that each organizer should make their own flyer where they should mention the EAP calendar and/or records.
- A photographer, Daniel Mitchell, went to Geneva, Amsterdam and Budapest at his own cost in order to make a photo report. The pictures were given for free to the organizers. Daniel Mitchell has offered to cover the whole circuit.
Whatever, the organizer must give him an accreditation in order to give him access to the track. Concerning his requirements (accommodation, transport, ...) we are waiting for his proposal (through Pablo) before accepting him since we know that some meetings have their own photographer.
- The access to Tilastopaja and All-Athletics will be renewed and the access codes will be reminded to the members.

10. Allocation of the mandate and the budget for 2016 :

Pablo will take care of the site and the other social networks.
No decision has been made concerning the budget for 2016.

11. Treasurer's Report

- Checking if the fees for 2015 had been paid : Bilbao hadn't paid and had to do so within a fortnight. Hexham paid through smartphone in Nivelles.
- Concerning the fees for 2016 : all the delegations have paid their fee for 2016, except Dour, Valence, Namur and Nivelles who will do it by bank transfer. Amsterdam only pays 100 € this year, this will change in 2017 with its indoor meeting.
- Price of the fee for 2017 : there is no change : 200€ and 150€ for the new members.
- Balance sheet for 2015 :

Receipts		Spendings	
Report 2014	320,67	Bills	2966,31
Fees 2015	3437,50	Travel expenses	613,98
Bank Interests	5,99		
Total	3764,16		3580,29
Balance 2015			183,87

12. General Rules of the circuit :

Pablo reminds us that each member has to respect the EAP rules.

The grid for the reimbursement of the expenses is explained to everyone.

Dour mentions they had to pay for the travelling expenses of an athlete between his home and the airport of his home country. Actually, they didn't have to do it. If the expenses are not higher than those of the reimbursement grid, the organizer must do it, provided the limit is respected.

This grid can be used for every means of transport.

An organizer can pay more than the amount allotted in the grid, if he has the possibility to do so, but should respect the minimum amount.

Let's not forget that the plane tickets must be bought early enough in order to have a good price.

The President reminds us that an organizer can only enrol the athletes of his own club for the other EAP events and is not allowed to enrol another athlete under the guise of the EAP.

13. Circuit 2015 :

Observers' reports and comments :

- Chambery : Giorgio found that the organization was not good enough (problems because some hotels were too far away, transport, meals, and slow schedule) and that there was no international "atmosphere" as the EAP circuit requires it.
- Boissano : Timéa : lack of communication in English during the meeting but warm welcome and good meeting.
- Kuldiga : Timéa : same comments as for Boissano.
- Aosta : Timéa : no calling area, no baskets for the athletes and lack of communication in English. The EAP circuit was not promoted well enough.
- Pavia : Timéa : lack of translation into English on the track but apparently, the speaker didn't let anybody else use the microphone?
- Geneva : Timéa : impeccable !
- Dour : Timéa : Very good welcome, but the meal at the hotel was too slow. Lack of facilities to warm up and the athletes had to wait in the calling area for a very long time! The EAP athletes should be mentioned by the announcer during the presentation.
- Leiria : Christian : very professional organization for that throwing event.
- No other comments for the other events.

In order to be more efficient, Pablo proposes that, in the future, the observation grids should be sent back to the executive committee and to the organizers of the event immediately after the meeting.

The observers for 2016 will be selected through a file to fill in on dropbox.

Too many delegations had already left on Sunday morning.

14. Next annual congresses :

<u>2016:</u>	Amsterdam : from November 4 th to November 6 th .
<u>2017:</u>	Budapest
<u>2018:</u>	Valence
<u>2019:</u>	Leiria

15. List of the members of the executive committee for 2016 :

Noël Levêque, Pablo Cassina, Giorgio Ferrando, Josep Massa, Christian Maigret,
+ the organizer of the 2015 congress : Micheline Smeets and the organizer for 2016 :
Amélie Mabbut.

16. Ranking of the events for 2015 :

Presented by Josep Massa : analysis of the grades, the number of foreign delegations and athletes at each meeting, etc...

In 2016, Josep will use the new IAAF grid.

Don't forget to send the results of your meeting to all the other members either on the very same day or on the day after.

17. Contact with the managers :

Apparently, nobody had any problem in that regard.

18. Follow up of the 2015 Workshops :

- Sponsoring of the circuit: as in the past, Diogo agrees to look for a general sponsor who is not in competition with the current sponsors. A file should be made to be shown to the possible new sponsors.
- EAP rules update: Hermes has done it in Italian.
Elena proposes to translate it into French and English. It will then be sent to the executive committee who will analyse it so that it can be validated at the next congress.
- "Code of Conduct": Nick gives everybody a proposal in English. The idea is to have it signed by each athlete when they first register on-line. It must be translated into English and into each country's language. The signature will be valid for a year.
This code should also be added to the file made for the sponsors.
Nick will also write a document in case the code would not be respected by an athlete.



19. Conclusions

The CABW thanks each delegation who attended this excellent 25th EAP congress.
See you in Amsterdam in 2016 !

Rapporteurs : Françoise Dethier and Micheline Smeets.

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