

Report of the meeting

Date: 26th-29th of October 2017
Location: Sopron Hungary
Countries present: 14: Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands,

1. Introduction and welcome

Viktor welcomes us to the school in Sopron and gives an overview for the program. Thursday will be welcome and dinner, Friday we will visit the study forest, the location for the forestry course, have time for discussion and presentations, take a look to the technical disciplines and do some sightseeing in Sopron. Saturday we will visit the national park, join a field trip, have some time for discussion, visit the Sopron tower and we'll have the final dinner.

2. Proposals

a. Application and competitors

- It is possible to attend with a girl team or to apply less than 4 girls. After the application, there will be a discussion if it is possible to mix 1 or more girl teams together for the forestry course.
- If an extra girls team will attend, there will be costs for housing and so one charged, as well as for extra guest besides the team and 2 teachers.
- The application will be in two steps: first a registration of the number of guests (including team) that will attend. Then in April the exact names. After application the organisation will confirm the application, to make sure only one team per nation will attend (according to the procedure as discussed in Switzerland at the 2016 meeting).
- The application will be counted to the maximum number of nations as set by the hosting country (20 for 2018 Hungary) in order of application. Countries that attend the preparatory meeting are guaranteed.
- Latvia requests if it is possible to allow a 3rd time as a competitor. Vote: 2 pro; 11 against, 2 no vote; decision: it is not allowed.
- Romania asks if it is possible to attend with students younger than 16 because their training starts at 15. Decision: this depends on the national rules in the organizing country: in some counties it is not allowed to operate a chainsaw at an age younger than 16.
- The maximum number of teams in Hungary will be 20.
- Belarus has requested if it is possible to observe with 2 persons, this is allowed.

b. Program for 2018 ECFS

Wednesday 23rd of May: arrival, opening ceremony and check of the chain saw
Thursday 24th of May: forestry course and activities;
Friday 25th of May: technical disciplines (app. 60%);
Saturday 27th of May: technical disciplines (app. 40%) and award ceremony;
Sunday 28th of May: departure

3. Next editions of the ECFS

Both Romania and Sweden have given an presentation to apply for the organisation for the ECFS in 2019 (Sweden) and 2020 (Romania).

Because of some misunderstanding the school that attend to organise in 2019 in Sweden is not represented at the meeting, but the colleges who are present, did the presentation. All countries accept the Swedish application for 2019.

Romania is present at the meeting and provides us with information about their school and competition history. All countries accept the Romanian application for 2020.

Latvia considers the organisation for 2021. The discussion and vote will be in 2018 at the meeting in Sweden.

a. Felling and undercut

In all cases (real tree felling, mast and simulation) the tree must be felled as a fore hanger, so the last cut must be from outside to inside.

It is a request to try to learn the contestants not to lay down at aiming for the felling direction.

At simulation:

- The contestant must look up when the felling cut has been made and he/she returns to the line, backwards;
- The time stops when the contestant has crossed the line and puts the chain saw at the ground.
- All stems must be prepared on the same way as at precision bucking.

b. Precision bucking

The contestant is allowed to the height of the sawdust him/herself and it is allowed to prepare the sawdust

It is a request to try to learn the contestants not to lay down that much.

c. Bucking by combined cuts

Not discussed,

d. Limbing

The arrangement for the branches will be 2016 IALC Poland (same as last year).

The stems and branches will be Spruce.

e. Fitting a new chain

No proposals.

f. Forestry course

- For the international judges it is also not allowed to take a mobile phone to the forestry course. For both judges and teams: DQ is set as punishment for violating this rule.
- Determine animals should not be tested by 'need to know' parts (e.g. bear penis bones or eggs), it should be trophy's, tracks or easy to recognize parts also when the animal is not common in some countries.
- It would be good to offer water at some tasks during the course.
- Determine timber should always be with bark.
- The length of the forestry course is not given in the rules, but it should not be too long: not longer than approx. 2 hours.

g. Rules for all disciplines

- The organizing country (Hungary) will organise a B-team as a try-out for the technical disciplines. This gives the opportunity to fine tune the cooperation between the national and international judges and preserve the high standard of judging.
- The conversation between the judges, both national and international shall be only in English.
- It is allowed to use a bumper spike without spikes as long as it is originally produced by a chainsaw manufacturer and as a serial number.

h. Head jury, judges and head of the tasks

- Frans and Otmar will be in charge for the chain saw control.
- For the head of tasks, after application the **head jury/committee** will discuss the head of tasks and make a proposal.
- Proposal for the head jury 2018:
 - Beat Philipp (Swiss)
 - Some one for Sweden (organizing country 2019)
 - Markus Wilfinger (Austria)
 - Peter Tretter (Germany)
 - Gerard van Looijengoed (The Netherlands)
 - Viktor Takacs (Hungary, organizing country 2018)
 - Simone Götsch (Italy)
- The proposal for the head jury is accepted with 14 votes.

4. End of the meeting

We thank Viktor, the principal of the school and the staff for the program and the successful meeting and are looking forward to return in May 2018 for the championship.