

# Report of preparatory meeting

## for the 19<sup>th</sup> European Championship in Forestry Skills for Students

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2019  
**Location:** Colegiul Silvic Gurghiu, Romania  
**Countries present:** 12: Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, The Netherlands.

### Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2019

The Romanian colleagues welcomed us to the school in Gurghiu, the meeting took place at Pensiunea Ovidiu & Paula. In the evening we started with welcoming words and with overview of the program. Andreas gave an overview of the well organised championship in Sweden.

### Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2019

The day started with a presentation of the forest and forestry in Romania and especially in the region Mureş. After the presentation we visited the Violin factory of Gliga company in the town of Reghin; which produces violins and other instruments from timber out of the region. Also we visited the 'castle' (dance school) in which the award ceremony will take place in May. Second visit was to the Kastamonu factory/saw mill which produces MDF and other timber based materials. After lunch (back in Gliga), we visited the school and had the opportunity to take a look at the competition area and the materials for the disciplines. We looked at:

- Felling will be carried out as simulation felling;
- The stems (14 cm diameter) and branches for limbing will be Spruce, pattern will be IALC 2018;
- For the felling (simulation) there will be 2 contestants using the same log (turned over), the log will be 115 cm in the length.

We also visited the dormitory at the school.

Before we visited the last point of the day, we visited a forest near by which is similar to the forest that should be used for the forestry course. At the forest we were welcomed by a local musician/artist with traditional Romanian music. We did get a good look on Romanian forests and saw some very nice examples of forests in Romania.

Last stop was the Sturza hunting exhibition.

Before and after dinner we discussed some changes to the rules, based on notes taken during the championship in Sweden. We discussed the set of rules page by page.

P 3: should there be a separated results list for the female teams?

*Decision: yes, we add a female result list.*

P4: the committee presents the proposal to add Gerard to the committee.

*Decision: Gerard will be added to the committee (11 votes for, 0 against and 1 no-vote)*

P4: the members of the head jury will be:

- Armands Lapins, Latvia, organizing country 2021
- Markus Wilfinger (Austria)
- Peter Tretter (Germany)
- Gerard van Looijengoed (The Netherlands)

- Christian Albu (Romania, organizing country 2020)
- Simone Götsch (Italy)
- Halvor Garas (Norway, organizing country 2022)

*Decision: this will be the members of the head jury (12 for, 0 against, 0 no-vote)*

P5: extra tasks for the committee is to check the ages before the competition starts and the list of competitors over the year to make sure only 2 times of competing.

*Decision: these tasks will be added to the tasks of the committee (no voting)*

P5: Head of the tasks proposal

Task	head of the task	international jury member
Felling:	Franz Wigoschnig	Othmar Goenitzer
Limbing:	Erik Pander	Stefan Gijsberts
Precision:	Julian Bruhn	Jochen Grünberger or Otmar Telfser
Combined:	Sandra Schwender or Wim Bries	Wim Bries
Fitting:	Gregor Cesarek	
Forestry course	Jochen Grünberger	Franz Wigoschnig

*Decision: this will be the head of the tasks (12 for, 0 against, 0 no-vote)*

P6: exceptions on the age of the competitors.

Proposal is to hand in exceptions on the age of competitors before the start of the competition to the head jury.

*Decision: this rule is added. (no voting)*

P6: size of the delegation in case of a separate female team. Proposal is to invite not only a female competitor team, but also a team leader and technical leader.

*Decision: yes (12 for, 0 against, 0 no-vote); in case of a mixed team this will be the members of the head jury*

P 6/7: medals for female competitors. Proposal is to add to the rules the following:

If there are 3 or more female competitors, there should be medals for the technical events total for them.

If a female competitor becomes first, second or third in a single event, she will receive the overall medal for the achievement.

If there are at least 3 female teams (national or mixed between nations) there will be medals for the total team score on technical events; the score for the forestry course and the team total (technical + forestry course). This the way we did it in Sweden 2019.

*Decision: this will be added to the rules (9 for, 3 against, 0 no-vote)*

P10: proposal is to add the release of the starting gas before lifting the chain brake when starting the chain saw. And an extra rule that the thumb must be around the bar at all time. A picture will be added to the rules.

*Decision: this will be added to the rules (11 for, 1 against, 0 no-vote)*

P11: adjust the number of penalty points at point 7 in the table from 50 to 20 like all the other disciplines.

*Decision: this will be changed in the rules (10 for, 1 against, 1 no-vote)*

P12: the Netherlands give the proposal to skip the opportunity for simulation felling. Both other options (mast and real tree felling) do right to the skills needed to be a forester. A discussion follows

with some interesting opinions: real tree felling should be skipped because it is too dangerous for referees and helpers (Estonia 2015 for example). The costs for mast felling are too high to organise. Last point: simulation felling should always be an alternative in case of bad weather conditions.  
*Decision: this proposal is rejected, all 3 options stay in the rules (1 for, 10 against, 0 no-vote)*

P23: the tension of the chain.

Both before and after the performance the referee will use a piece of paper to check if the chain tension is correct and no driving link comes out of the bar.  
(no voting)

P26: a picture will be added how to stop the time to avoid misunderstandings.  
(no voting)

P34 arena: an example how to prepare the boards for precision bucking will be added (no voting)  
As well as a description and dimensions of the stopper.

Forestry course

Note: adventure should be easy understandable even for students/teams that are not native English speakers

Note 2: setting up 3 tables for the recognising tasks prevails above 2 tables to avoid waiting time.

Announcement for the relascope stick; size and factor will be 4.

First aid: the example as used last year in Sweden with a short situation example for first aid did work out very well, so the suggestion is given to send an overview of common first aid situations to help the teams to train and prepare.

At the start all teams will be checked, please team leaders: make sure no mobile phones or any other forbidden thing shows up.

For the sample plot: the tables should be made for the specific location. It is not useable to use a table from other locations.

Forms: the forms for combined bucking and precision bucking will be changed: now only the drop of bar and nuts is punished. According to the rule all items that drop off should be punished with 20 penalty points.

Bad behavior: if someone notices bad behavior, it should be reported to the head jury which will decide if the penalty points are given or not.

The website: not all school which attend the competition in Sweden did transfer the money yet. Please take care of that or contact Gerard ([gsvanlooijengoed@gmail.com](mailto:gsvanlooijengoed@gmail.com)) for details.

The invitation will be send to all nations in February and there are maximum 22 places for teams to start. For now only 2 complete female teams (Norway and Austria) are known, but a mixed team (Latvia, Belgium, Italy/The Netherlands) is possible. The housing for the female teams will be together with the other students or –if the team does not agree to that–at another location in Gurghiu. In this case the team has to announce that to the school and care for the separate location (own costs).

Romania will make a list of the equipment and measuring tools needed and spread it to the other nations to arrange all necessary items.

## **Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2019**

At Saturday we visited the town of Târgu Mureş, and a tour in the Palace of Culture. Then we visited the Citadel of Sighișoara which is a UNESCO world heritage site. After the lunch we visited the old salt mine of Praid and the last stop was the bear lake of Sovata.

In the evening Norway give a presentation for the organisation of the championship in 2022. Kongsberg Videregående Skole is willing to organise 2022 championship.

*The vote for this proposal was 12 for the proposal.*

### International evening

Last year in Sweden, alcohol was not allowed. In Romania all persons under 18 are not allowed to drink. The rules will be that every team leader is responsible for the own team to make sure that the national rules of Romania will be respected. At the international evening only light alcohol such as beer is allowed. Please act responsible, any violation will be counted as bad behavior.

### Program of 2020

The arrival will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of may 2020, 1 day earlier than usual.

Wednesday will be the opening ceremony, forestry course and the chain saw check (after noon)

Thursday and Friday will be used for the technical disciplines. And in the evening of Friday the award ceremony takes place. Saturday is only for departure.

On the day of arrival and after the forestry course a team leader meeting is requested.

For the Friday afternoon speed limbing will be carried out by one competitor of each nation. No step mistakes are counted, only 10mm stem mistakes (height and depth) with 2 seconds per mistake.

If the team of Gurghiu does not represent Romania at the championship, it will be present as a B-team to help the referees to start up at then technical events (without counting).

Markus will take care of the latest version of the calculation program and send it before the championship, so the staff for the calculation team can get used to work with it before. In the calculation room (near the competition site) is would be convenient to have a small staff (2 or 3 persons with IT skills and knowledge of the English language) and a printer.

Peter thanked our Romanian host for the hospitality and nice days we spent near Gurghiu. Marcel thanked for the visit and wished everyone a safe journey home.

**We would like to thank the organizing school for the warm reception and a well-organized preparatory meeting**

For the protocol

Gerard, Petra and Peter