

Report of the meeting

Date: Friday 16-10-2015
Location: The Netherlands
Countries present: Austria, Germany, Belgium, Latvia, Estonia, Norway, Slovenia, Luxembourg, Swiss, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands

1 Welcome

Richard Pastoors welcomes a countries to the location of the championship in 2016.

2 Discussion proposal Swiss 2017

Peter Tretter leads the discussion.

Yesterday evening the Swiss representatives gave a presentation about the candidature of Swiss to organise the championship in 2017.

The committee has the opinion it could be a good championship, but it would be hard to organise the forestry course without knowledge from earlier years.

- Organising should not be a problem because the knowledge of the technical discipline is present in Swiss.
- Judging should be supported by former competitors from abroad.
- Felling: Mast simulation or real trees will be discussed.
- Date: early June is a problem for most countries because of the exams, the Swiss will see if it is possible to organise the EC earlier, note after the meeting the date has been changed.
- Forestry course: the Swiss can take a good look at the preparations in the Netherlands and could be helped by Franz/Otmar or the Italian team. The advice from the committee is that is very important for them and for good organisation of forestry course that they take part in organisation of Netherland's forestry course and to take some advice from Italian and Austrian team, because the landscape is more similar.
- Another condition was that the Swiss team take part with their own team on the competition in Netherland and that will Swiss country who will be part of European championship in future to.

Votes: 13 pro; 0 con's

Decision: the Swiss organises the EC in 2017.

2018: maybe Hungary will organise, but this is not sure yet. Viktor and Gregory will work on the preparation next year.

3 2016 The Netherlands

Date: 25-28 May 2016

Organisation is done by two foundations, who take care of the championship (The Axetreme-Team) and for the side event to raise fuds (BuitenGewone Houtdagen BGH). The foundation BGH is supported by 8 experienced advisors for the government, event organisers and companies.

The organisation is not supported by a school, so the funds needs should be raised in the private sector and it would be organised with low costs.

About 2 years ago the teams started with the idea of organising the EC.

Housing

After a few locations we found the location at Denekamp, but the housing is still an issue. The competition site can be filled with tents for the competitor, the beds, sheets and blankets and a heater.

Richard asks the representatives if it is possible for the teams to bring (in the worst case scenario) a own tent. 10 countries say yes, 3 no.

There will be toilet and shower facilities at the terrain, as well as a place for the chain saws and other equipment for the countries who need it instead of their own van/car.

Program

The program will start on Thursday until Sunday morning. The event continue on Sunday for visitors.

Forestry course

Erik explains the location at the mansion/estate Singraven, a very old mansion nearby.

The track is mostly dry, and flat, aim is to create a track of app. 2,5 km.

After the forestry course the organisation try to organiser leisure activities or the students like in other countries before.

Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony is planed after the forestry course. The ceremony will be organised in the town of Denekamp, and the shops in town are open on Thursday and not on Wednesday evening. It would be better to have more attention for the public.

The idea is to combine the adventure part of the forestry course and the opening ceremony. The best 4 teams could perform again the event in the town of Denekamp. A video about the Dutch disciplines has been displayed. Some of the disciplines would be combined into the adventure event.

The adventure will start after the first aid, after first aid after should be time to change clothes to safety equipment.

Pro: 12 pro; 0 cons; 1 no vote.

Decision: it is okay to organise the event this way.

Later in the meeting the point of the surprise aspect has been mentioned. Pro would be: no country can practice, but con is it must be safe and clear rules must be given or an example round. Teams cannot see the adventure before, the organisation will work out the idea and think about using the same chainsaw for all teams. If the own saw will be used it should be checked before.

Technical disciplines

Will be carried out at the location near Denekamp.

All the mast felling stems will be standing when the teams arrive.

Limbing will be carried out as final discipline. There will be no speed limbing.

Check of the equipment

Will be on Wednesday evening, or Thursday or on Friday morning.

International evening

It is the idea of the organisation to invite a selected guests to join the international evening (not to many). This should not be a problem.

In the Netherlands it is not allowed for minors (under 18) to drink, buy or own alcohol. Further information about smoking and alcohol, will be send to you with the invitation. On arrival all persons receive a wrist band that makes clear if he/she is over or under 18 years old.

Question is: should it be allowed to bring alcohol as national speciality or not.

Pro: 4; cons: 5; no votes: 4

Decision: no alcohol should be brought to the international evening.

The judging

Some judges and officials smoke inside the arenas where the disciplines are performed. The people who join the competition as official or judge are not allowed to do so, both technical events as well as the forestry course.

The Dutch team has made a proposal for the judging for the technical events. This proposal is handed out to the representatives. And after the press meeting it will be shown during/after the demonstration of the technical disciplines.

After the lunch an excursion was organised to Europe Forestry/Europe Chippers.

Dinner was organised at Vennegoor installatietechniek Weerselo, a typical Dutch meal.

After dinner an excursion to Othmars' bier was scheduled.

Report of the meeting day 2

Date: Saturday 17-10-2015
Location: The Netherlands
Countries present: Austria, Germany, Belgium, Latvia, Estonia, Norway, Slovenia, Swiss, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands

1 Welcome

Richard Pastoors welcomes all representatives to the second day of the prep. meeting. Unfortunately Peter Tretter, Wolfgang Weis (GER) and Claude Wagner and Thomas Mayer had to leave.

2 Program for today

Richard gives a quick overview to the program for today.

3 Regulations and changes

Head jury for 2016

There must be some adaptations to the head jury because of the change in organising countries.

2015:

- Markus Wilfinger (Austria)
- Christian Albu (Romania) replaced by Esa, Finland
- Peter Tretter (Germany)
- Brede Lauten (Norway) replaced by Jon Arne, Norway
- Wim Bries (Belgium)
- Marko Vinni (organizing country 2015, Estonia) (No vote)
- Richard Pastoors (organizing country in 2016, The Netherlands) (No vote)

2016 proposal:

- Markus Wilfinger (Austria)
- Peter Tretter (Germany)
- Brede Lauten (Norway)
- Viktor Takacs (Hungary)
- Wim Bries (Belgium)
- Richard Pastoors (organizing country in 2016, The Netherlands) (No vote)
- Beat Phillipp (organizing country 2017, Swiss) (No vote)

Votes: 12 pro, cons 0.

Decision: the head jury will be as presented in the proposal.

Judging and measurements

The Dutch team has worked out a proposal for the judging, yesterday all 5 disciplines have been carried out as well as the judging. Aim of the proposal is to give a stable base and clear list of actions for the judging. So the competition is fair and equal for all students.

The Dutch proposal also gives a way to take the measurements:

- The student finishes the discipline;
- The judges have a small moment for discussion;
- When the measurements take place the competitor will be invited to watch the measurements, without to see the result. And the judge asks if the measurements are taken on a correct way.

The safety cover must be on the chain saw during transport, the point of discussion is: should the judge or the competitor bring the cover to the finish line and at what moment.

Normally the competitors make sure the cover is at the finish line, he can put it there during the check, or ask the judges after the discipline if it is okay for him to pick it up from the starting line. No changes to the rules, but an extra attention point, the jury should be aware of the safety, after finishing.

The judge have to invite the competitor for measuring The trainer can't be present during the measuring.

Votes: pro: 12; con: 0.

Decision: the proposal is added to the rules.

Head of the tasks

There should be some changes to the head of the tasks, but it is not clear who will attend in 2016. The Netherlands will draw a proposal for this and invite the people and inform the people about it. Due to the shortage of experienced Dutch the Netherlands would like to invited experienced people from all over Europe to help judging the competition. It should be clear, all judges must be able to act the way a teacher treats a student, but also as an experienced judge, with knowledge of the rules. It is important to have head of the tasks, who attend every year the meeting and the championship. Other judges can be teachers, national judges or former competitors or judges for abroad. Before the disciplines, the members of a jury team meet and talk about the judging, possibly with a b-team to try the judging.

Check of the chain saw

Every year it appears, the chain saw check at the start of the completion is difficult because of the modifications, missing rubbers and other points. The proposal is written to avoid this, and only check the safety parts of the equipment. Discussion is, what are safety points for the chain saw, for the competitor, the judges and the spectators. The list of the proposal gives a good overview of the parts of the chain saw which are involved with safety.

Three options are brought vote for:

- pro: 4; ; No modifications (all parts original with serial number, no changes, new rubber, visual check;)
- pro: 3; -; Modifications are allowed, but may not affect the safety parts;
- pro: 4; ; No modifications (option 1), only the rubber is allowed to cut;
- no votes: 1. .

Decision: no modifications are allowed, all parts must be original and have a serial number.

After lunch: new discussion.

The chain saw must be a standard type, equipped with standard parts with a serial number. All parts must be completely at the chain saw as delivered form the manufacturer and are not visually modified. Safety aspects will be checked for sure.

Pro: 8; con 1; no votes: 3.

Decision: the proposal is added to the rules.

Russian school

Question from Germany, would it be okay a Russian school would visit the championship, and maybe compete in the future.

Pro: 9; con: 0; no vote 2.

Decision: it is okay if the Russian school joins the EC to observe.

Press in the arena

To organise safe competitions and a smooth competition; should there be rules for the press in the regulations?

Decision: The press should only be invited to the arena with permission of the head of the task. And the student should be asked if it is okay for the press to attend. The student has the right to say no.

Protest protocol

There should be a protocol for the protest. Standard protocols will be added to the rules with: time, competitor + number, country, signature, time of the appeal, reason for the appeal.

Warning call at felling and under cut

First the representatives vote for if it would be necessary to give a warning call during felling and under cut.

Pro: 4; con: 7; no vote 1.

Decision: no warning call.

Technical leader by mast felling is allowed:

Proposal about the technical leader, should he/she be allowed in the arena to determine the felling direction when mast felling will be carried out.

Pro: 1, con: 8, no vote: 3.

Decision: the technical leader is not allowed to determine the felling direction during mast felling.

Technical leader by real tree felling is allowed:

Proposal about the technical leader, should he/she be allowed in the arena to determine the felling direction when real tree felling will be carried out.

Pro: 8; con: 4; no vote: 0.

Decision: the technical leader is allowed to determine the felling direction during real tree felling.

Check for the height of the sawdust at precision bucking

Proposal: should the competitor check the height of the sawdust before starting his performance?

Three options:

- using foam of exact 30mm;
- Check by the competitor before starting the discipline;
- The competitor will prepare his own sawdust.

Decision: the height of the sawdust will be 30mm, but if the student want to check (in spite well prepared discipline, it still can happen minimum tolerances), the judge will show him the height. The sawdust stay the same, but student know exactly how much it is.

Cut the stems after each competitor at bucking by combined cuts

Decision: After every competitor the stems will be cut to 90 degrees by the organisation.

Limbing

During the 2016 EC, the most recent limbing schedule for the IALC will be used. Limbing will be carried out as a final discipline, so there will not be speed limbing.

Report, regulations and protocols

Gerard en Petra will draw a report of the meeting. Together with the adaption to the regulations and the protocols, this will be sent to all nations about 1st of December 2015.