

# **Report of preparatory meeting**

## **for the 18<sup>th</sup> European Championship in Forestry Skills for Students**

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> of November 2018  
**Location:** Svenljunga Natural Resource School, Sweden  
**Countries present:** 12: Austria, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Norway, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands.

### **Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2018**

Sweden colleagues welcome us to the school in Svenljunga. At the evening we started with welcoming words, presentation of the forestry education in Sweden and with overview of the program.

### **Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2018**

The whole day was forestry excursion in collaboration with forestry companies; we visited two different fields with forest machinery, pulp and sawmill industry. The colleagues from Sweden made a perfect presentation of that.

### **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2018**

We started the meeting with the report of championship in Hungary, which made Helga Takács-Nagy. 22 teams (and 21 nations) took part at the championship, which was the largest number in the history of the ECFS. The first time there was an "International girls team". The first time in the history of competition one competitor was disqualified. The general impression about the championship in Hungary was good, we noticed some problems with the protocols for forestry course, to avoid that situations in the future Gerard van Looijengoed made new proposal of protocols, which are part of the rules. The Swedish proposal for the protocols for the forestry course will be combined.

The principal of the Romanian school Colegiul Silvic Gurghiu Marcel Mindru and Cristian-Teofil Albu once again confirmed their organization of the competition in 2020.

Christian-Teofil Albu (Romania) and Peter Nyman (Sweden) will be added to the head jury for 2019. Otmar Gönitzer will not be able to join the championship in 2019.

Gerard van Looijengoed prepared a proposal of the rules with appendix which we made at the meetings in the past in one document. We checked one more time if everything is correct. We also voted about some proposals:

P1: We discussed about possibility to help a competitor who can't turn on his/her chain saw. We decided with 8 votes for (4 countries without opinion), that help in the competition area is not allowed.

P2: With 10 votes for (2 countries without opinion) we decided to use the most recent IALC drilling pattern for limbing.

At competition in Sweden 2018 will use drilling pattern from Norway 2018; spruce's stem with pine branches.

P3: With 11 votes for (1 country without opinion) we decided that is allowed to compete without jacket. The t-shirt has to be in signal colour. The safety shoes with the protection for using a chain saw must be worn as well.

P4: With 11 votes for (1 country without opinion) we decided to punish bad behaviour of all members of the team (also teachers).

P5: With 9 votes for (3 countries without opinion) we decided to punish bad behaviour (of all members of the team) with 50 penalty points.

P6: With 8 votes for (4 countries without opinion) we decided to accept the proposal of Norway to put on the list (Task 13 Determining animals) one new animal: Lagopus muta (mountain grouse).

Some more important informations also are:

- the organising school (in Sweden) can accept maximum 25 teams, girls are warm welcome
- age of competitor will be checked by the organizer on the check in
- the warming-up of the chain saw without protection also will be punished, in Sweden there will be a marked place for warming-up the chain saw
- in case the forest doesn't have enough hard wood is possible to change growing stock of hardwoods / growing stock of softwoods with 2 different tree species, but organising country have to inform all the countries about that
- the factor for the relascope in Sweden 2019 will be factor 1, so the plate will be 2 cm at 100 cm stick.

In the afternoon we made a break of classroom work, we went out to see the area for the technical part. Markus Wilfinger and Peter Tretter warned colleagues from Sweden about common mistakes that could be done by preparing the polygon for a technical part, especially for precision cut. We also visited forestry areas similar to the forestry course.

The official part was completed with the presentation of Latvia. The principal of the school Ilze Brante and Armands Lapins presented a proposal for the competition 2021 in Latvia. The proposal was accepted by the votes of all presented members.

During the meeting also a journalist visited us.

**We would like to thank the organizing school for the warm reception, a well-organized preparatory meeting and for hours of using your hunting, forwarder and harvester simulators and to give us opportunity to drive a real one.**

For the protocol:

Petra Prelc and Gerard van Looijengoed