



DanceSport Europe
WDSF Continental Association of Europe



MINUTES OF DANCESPORT EUROPE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
held on Friday June 9th, 2023
Spanish National Olympic Committee, Madrid
At 11:00 CET

1. Call to order

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota called to order the Annual General Assembly at 11:00 CET. Mr. Wota welcomed the delegates and guests to the Spanish National Olympic Committee buildings in Madrid.

Mr. Wota thanks the Spanish National Olympic Committee for providing the meeting room free of charge.

A further thank you to the WDSF for providing the transportation from the official hotel.

2. Report on Convocation of the Meeting and Submission of Motions

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota provided the report on the Convocation of the Meeting and Submission of Motions.

The first information was sent on 15th January 2023.

The E-Booklet including the final agenda was sent to the members on 7th April 2023.

3. Roll Call and Ascertainment of Votes

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota informed the meeting that of the 36 DSE members, there were 32 members present of which 6 are represented by proxy. There are 31 members with the right to vote at the beginning of the meeting.

Given that more than ¼ of the voting members in terms of number of votes represented by the delegates were present, the General Assembly can be convened as duly constituted as stated in article 9 of the statutes.

At the beginning of the meeting, the simple and 2 / 3 majority were calculated as follows:

Present members: 32

Represented by Proxy: 6

Total eligible to vote: 31

Simple majority: 16

2 / 3 majority: 21



4. Election of meeting Chairman

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota volunteered as the Chairman of the meeting. There were no other nominations.

Unanimously Approved, Mr. Wota was elected to act as the Chairperson of the meeting.

5. Election of the meeting Secretary/Minute Keeper

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota on behalf of the Managing Committee, suggested Ms. Aimie Leak (Ireland) to act as the meeting secretary and minute keeper. There were no other nominations.

Unanimously Approved, Ms. Aimie Leak was elected to act as the Secretary of the Meeting.

6. Appointment of Scrutineers

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota on behalf of the Managing Committee, suggested Ms. Marina Kraševac Barišić (Croatia) and Ms. Magdalena Czarnocka - Kaptur (Poland) act as Scrutineers of the meeting. There were no other nominations.

Unanimously Approved, Ms. Marina Kraševac Barišić and Ms. Magdalena Czarnocka - Kaptur were elected to act as Scrutineers of the meeting.

7. Recognitions and Special Welcomes

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota, on behalf of the management committee, welcomes;

First Vice President and Vice President for Finance, Mr. Tony Tilenni

Vice President for Sport, Mr. Nenad Jeftić

General Secretary Mr. Sergey Nifontov

Vice President for Communications, Mr. Jeffrey Van Meerkerk

Vice President for Legal Affairs, Mr. Jim Fraser

Presidium member Mr. Boris Odikadze

Presidium member Mr. Charles Ferriera



8. Allocation of Time

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota on behalf of the management committee, proposed the allocation of time to be 3 minutes for speech per topic, with an added 1 minute for additional comments per topic. There were no other suggestions.

9. Approval of Time

The proposed allocation of time was unanimously approved by the AGA.

10. Approval of the minutes of 2022 Annual General Assembly

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota on behalf of the management committee informed the delegates that the 2022 minutes were circulated to DSE members on 2nd February 2023. Mr. Wota moved that the DSE AGA approve these minutes.

The minutes of the 2022 DSE AGA were unanimously approved.

11. Urgent Motion

The DSE Management committee asked for a vote to include an urgent motion.

Urgent motion: To release the All Ukrainian DanceSport Federation from the DSE annual membership fee payment for calendar year 2023 with the preservation of all membership privileges, including the right to vote.

DSE Treasurer, Mr. Sergey Belyaev explained the technical clarification of the voting according to the statutes. A $\frac{2}{3}$ majority was required to accept the urgent motion.

The DSE AGA unanimously approved, adding the motion to the agenda.

The motion was then voted on requiring a simple majority.
The motion was unanimously approved.

The ascertainment of votes was updated.

Present members: 32

Represented by Proxy: 6



Total eligible to vote: 32

Simple majority: 17

2 / 3 majority: 21

As a point of information,

DSE Members will be given the opportunity to share their position on the issue of participation of Russian athletes in international competitions in Miscellaneous.

12. President's Report

The president's report was circulated in advance by email.

Mr. Wota asked if there were any questions on the report.

There were no questions or comments.

DSE AGA Unanimously approved the report.

13. General Secretary's Report

The General Secretary's report was circulated in advance by email.

Mr. Wota asked for any questions about the report.

DSE AGA Unanimously approved the report.

There were no questions or comments.

14. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was circulated in advance by email.

Mr. Wota asked for any questions about the report.

Question from Mr. Valeri Ivanov (Spain)

Mr. Ivanov congratulated Mr. Belyaev on the good work he had done, in particular for gaining tax exemptions for DSE.

Mr. Ivanov noted that improvements needed to be made regarding debts owed to DSE.

Mr. Ivanov asked how the debts of the account were managed?

Mr. Belyaev noted that DSE is in a far clearer position now than when he had inherited the position. Mr. Belyaev informed the AGA of the investigation into historical debts and how the



MC had collected them.

DSE issues invoices through office email, using electronic systems which can identify if the email has been received and also if it has been opened and read.

Mr. Belyaev noted that each member has an obligation to pay their membership which is due on 1st January each year and must be paid before 31st March.

Obligation falls on members to ensure their membership is paid to DSE.

If any member has any doubts they should contact the General Secretary who will respond to emails daily.

General Secretary Ms. Dragana Majcen added that numerous communications are made with members to collect fees.

Mrs. Violeta Yaneva from Bulgaria joined the meeting.
The ascertainment of votes was updated.

Present members: 33
Represented by Proxy: 6
Total eligible to vote: 33
Simple majority: 17
2 / 3 majority: 22

Hearing no more questions the Treasurer's report was called to a vote.
Unanimously approved.

14. Approval of Financial Statement 2022

- Profit and loss statement
- Balance Sheets
- DSE Financial controller's Report
- Approval of the annual financial statements

The 2022 financial controllers Mr. Guy Simon (Luxembourg) and Mr. Lior Belenky (Israel) reported that the financial statement had passed all spot checks.

Neither financial controller could find any discrepancies and both congratulated Mr. Sergey Belyaev for his diligent work.

Mr. Sergey Belyaev added the following comments:

Cash flow is in a healthy position. Accounts are in order for him to recommend the DSE AGA to approve the financial report.



Mr. Sergey Belyaev observes that members are slow to pay their membership fees. Some members have debts which are increasing yearly, where such members have not answered communications for 4 years.

The only solution to stop increasing these debts is to change the membership rules and expel members who continuously do not pay their membership fees.

Mr. Belyaev informs the DSE AGA that he has made the recommendation to DSE MC to make a motion to expel the members who continue to refuse to pay their memberships fees. This suggestion was not accepted by the DSE MC.

Mr. Juris Arajs (Latvia) asked who these members were.

According to Swiss GDPR law, DSE MC cannot name the countries to the general assembly unless there is a motion from the AGA to reveal this information.

Mr. Juris Arajs (Latvia) Proposed the following motion.

Motion:

That the 2023 DSE AGA requests to reveal the names of the DSE members who have outstanding debts owed to DSE.

The motion is seconded by Mr. Ivo Münster - (Germany).

Unanimously approved however, there were 3 abstentions.

The following information was provided:

Greece owes 2000 euro.

Cyprus owes 1400, however, has made a payment of 800 euro.

This payment of 800 euro was to cover the membership fees for 2023, and 2022.

There is an outstanding debt of 600 euro.

Note: The 800 euro payment had not yet reached the DSE bank accounts before the start of the meeting.

Malta has a debt which was not disclosed.

In discussions with DSE MC Malta decided to resign from DSE membership.

If Malta wishes to re-join in the future they will have to pay historic debts first as resigning membership does not clear the debt owed.

No other countries have outstanding debts.



Mr. Juris Arajs - (Latvia) asked if the MC plans to expel Greece.

Mr. Wota suggests that if Greece continues to ignore communications that the future DSE MC should consider making a motion to expel Greece.

Mr. Valeri Ivanov (Spain) asked if the DSE MC is certain Cyprus was aware of their exact debts and asked if Cyprus can be accepted as fully voting members of the 2023 DSE AGA as they have paid the past two years membership.

DSE General Secretary Ms. Dragana Majcen confirms that Cyprus was fully aware of the debts owed as several correspondents have been sent.

Ms. Majcen acknowledges that there has been a change of president in Cyprus however, the historical debt is still owed.

Ms. Majcen then read a passage from the statutes which confirms, all fees must be paid and full financial obligations must be settled before the meeting starts. Cyprus had not fulfilled this obligation and therefore was not allowed to vote.

Mr. Mircea Gavrillia - Romania asked why the outstanding payment could not be made now in cash.

Mr. Sergey Belyaev added that cash could not be accepted as it's not possible to lodge cash to the swiss bank accounts adding that in the modern world we should strive to only use electronic payments as it was the most transparent and clear procedure.

Mr. Ivo Muenster - (Germany) read a passage from the statutes which confirms all fees must be paid before the meeting starts and that discussion around payments after the meeting started was not possible.

Mr. Sergey Belyaev noted the 300% increase in capital by the end of financial year of 2022. With more than 70,000 CHF in the bank, compared to below 20,000 CHF in previous years.

Mr. Belyaev then explained how he had obtained tax exemption for DSE and the benefits in revenue this will bring for the future.

Furthermore all bookkeeping is now based in Switzerland and is electronic explaining how all the data is recorded and reports available.

There were no more questions or comments.

DSE AGA Unanimously approved the financial statement of 2022.



15. Approval of Management Committee's work from the last general assembly to the present.

Mr. Sean Smullen (Ireland) proposed a motion to approve the Management Committee's work from the last general assembly to the present.

Mr. Albert Akopyan from Armenia seconded the motion.

The motion was - Unanimously approved.

16. Annual membership fee 2024

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota on behalf of the management committee proposed to not make any changes in the membership fees.

The proposed fees for 2024 are:

Full membership - 400 euro

Provisional membership - 200 euro.

There were no other proposals.

Unanimously approved.

17. Budget and Result 2022 Adoption of the 2024 Provisional Budget

The Budget and Result 2022 Adoption of the 2024 Provisional Budget was Unanimously approved by the DSE AGA.

Mr. Belyaev highlighted that the recommendation from Switzerland to include 'cost projects' was adopted into the budget. Mr. Belyaev explained the benefit of this to the AGA.

18. Election of the DSE Management Committee for the term of 4 years

Before the DSE MC stood down from the MC table and returned to the floor, each member gave a short speech on their experience in the previous 4 years.

Mr. Guy Rosen added that the previous years during Covid 19 a lot of money was saved from online meetings and suggested the new DSE MC have monthly online meetings.

Mr. Guy Rosen gave a short report of the Class System success and its plan for the future.



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Mr. Duarte Vierra from Portugal spoke on behalf of Mr. Alberto Rodrigues who was not present and gave his intentions to re stand for election if Mr. Belyaev was elected President.

Mr. Eric Sourdeau spoke on behalf of Mr. Fredric Mosa and mentioned that Mr. Mosa for personal reasons would not be standing for re-election.

Mr. Sergey Belyaev thanked the MC for its trust in his work, giving special thanks to Ms. Dragana Majcen for her diligent hard work on all DSE matters.

Mr. Belyaev thanked each MC member individually before thanking Mr. Wota for his cooperation and shared work.

Ms. Dragana Majcen expressed her gratitude to each MC member for their cooperation during the 4 year term and gave her intentions for the future to re stand for election if Mr. Belyaev was elected President.

Mr. Davide Caccari for personal reasons will not re stand for election within DSE. Mr. Caccari thanked each of the DSE MC for their hard work and extended a special thank you to members of the WDSF Presidium present and to PD Sports Director and her husband for their support of DSE.

Mr. Robert Wota thanked each management committee member. Mr. Wota expressed his interest to stand for re-election.

Giving an overview of the good projects achieved in the previous 4 years however, also giving an overview of some challenges, Covid 19, WDSF Election, The War.

A recognition that we are not in the same place we were 4 years ago and that moving forward there is a need for doing things a different, better way with a concentration on unifying and rebuilding the younger generation.

DSE President Mr. Robert Wota and the management committee fully stepped down and the DSE AGA Unanimously elected Mr. Duarte Vierra (Portugal) to chair the elections.

Mr. Lior Beleaky from Israel proposed a motion that each candidate have 3 minutes to present themselves.

Unanimously approved.

President elections:

Candidates:

Mr. Sergey Belyaev nominated by Finland.

Mr. Robert Wota nominated by Poland.



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Both candidates gave a brief statement of their future intentions.

Mr. Juris Arajs (Latvia) asked why there were numbers on the ballot.

Ms. Dragana Majcen responded that this was to ensure no additional votes were cast and each ballot was numbered.

For a point of information the ballot sheets were distributed at random and no one could possibly know who had which numbered sheet.

President candidates

Mr. Sergey Belyaev - 14 votes

Mr. Robert Wota - 18 votes

The President of DSE for the next 4 years is Mr. Robert Wota

Nominations for VP:

Mr. Mircea Gavrilă nominated by - Romania.

Mr. Gavrilă gave a prepared speech in which he outlined;

As President of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Romanian DanceSport Federation (RDSF) he was 100% committed to developing the world of DanceSport, commenting that while most countries were closed due to covid, RDSF helped to restart the system.

In 2021-2022 RDSF organised 6 World Championships, 2 European Championships and 6 World Opens.

In addition, they helped to organise 7 World/European Championships that took place in Sardinia (Italy).

Mr. Gavrilă also listed the main projects he has been involved with, in the last 10 years including:

1 European Cup, 7 European Championships, 8 DSE Grand Prix Competitions, 1 DSE European Championship in National Teams, 13 World Championships, 2 Grand Slams, 1 AGM, 1 Presidium Meeting, and 2 WDSF Adjudicators Congresses.

Mr. Gavrilă said his goal is to reinforce Europe's position in our dance world, striving for new ways to improve the existing environment. He will give a deep and powerful commitment to preserve and to continue to fight for our dance world.

Vote for Vice president:

Mr. Mircea Gavrilă - 21 votes in favour, 12 abstention.

DSE Treasurer:

Mr. Ludwig Wieshofer was nominated by - Austria.



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Mr. Wieshofer gave a brief overview of his achievements in DanceSport over the last 40 years in DanceSport.

Vote for DSE Treasurer:

Mr. Ludwig Wieshofer - 26 votes in favour 6 abstention

General Secretary

Mr. Luigi Bodini from Georgia - nominated by Czech republic.

Mr. Bodini said he will serve DSE members the best way possible, particularly with his expertise in event organisation.

He will be able to assist with website and management activities.

Vote for General Secretary:

21 votes in favour, 12 abstentions.

DSE MC Members

Mr. Pietro Braga (Italy) - was nominated by Mr. Valeri Ivanov - Spain.

Mr. Albert Hakobyan (Armenia) - was nominated by Mr. Guy Simon - Luxembourg.

Mr. Valdis Skutans (Latvia) - was nominated by Mr. Juris Arajs - Latvia.

Mr. Andriy Polyvka (Ukraine) - was nominated by Ukraine.

Mrs. Violeta Yaneva(Bulgaria) - was nominated by Mr. Mircea Gavrilă - Romania.

All candidates accepted their nominations.

The candidates received the following votes:

Pietro Braga - 26 votes (elected)

Albert Hakobyan - 17 votes (elected)

Valdis Skutans - 26 votes (elected)

Andriy Polyvka - 12 votes (not elected)

Violeta Yaneva - 13 votes (not elected)

5 abstentions.

19. Appointment of the financial controllers

Mr. Wota suggested that we would have 2 financial controllers.

Unanimously approved.

Mr. Lior Belenky from Israel was nominated however, respectfully declined.



Mr. Valeri Ivanov - Spain and Ms. Magdalena Czarnocka - Poland are nominated.
Both candidates accepted the nomination.

Unanimously approved.

20. Miscellaneous

DSE members were invited to speak on topics not covered by the agenda.

Mr. Aleksey Vahin, Ukraine introduced himself as the delegate from Ukraine and Chair of his National Athletes Commission.

Mr. Vahin informed the AGA that the IOC are beginning a Refugee Team and explained how this would work.

Mr. Vahin explained how Ukrainian athletes are not permitted by the government to take part in events which have Russian or Belarusian athletes present.

Mr. Vahin informed the AGA that despite the war and travel difficulties, that 45 Ukrainian couples took part in 60 competitions in 2023.

Mr. Juris Arajs from Latvia personally sympathised with Ukraine and Ukrainian athletes and spoke that in Latvia, if they would accept a Russian or Belarusian athlete or official at their event they would lose all government funding and recognition immediately.

Mrs. Lena Arvidsson (Sweden) spoke of how sport should be non-political.
However, we are in a situation where we cannot separate sport and politics.

Mrs. Arvidsson read out a statement issued from

The Nordic IOC which did not support any change to the sanctions on Russian and Belarusian athletes. Now is not the right time to consider their return.

Mr. Martin Dvorak (Czech Republic) asked the presidium members present to elaborate on the White Flag policy posted on the WDSF website.

DSE president suggested that the DSE may not be the best time to discuss this, and that the delegate should ask and discuss this topic at the WDSF AGM.

There were no more questions or comments.

21. Adjournment

At 14:36 CET the WDSF DanceSport Europe 2023 Annual General Assembly Meeting was adjourned.



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DanceSport Europe President

Robert Wota