



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On December 2nd, 2017 the IWAS member nations changed my life by electing me as new President. Succeeding Paul de Pace was a real challenge, how pointing out new achievements through this new IWAS Annual Activity Report 2018?

Of course, the IWAS Junior Games in Athlone, Ireland from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018 definitively was a milestone for a lot of youngsters from across the world. For several athletes this event was the start of their International career which will hopefully lead to the Paralympic pathway.

Both face to face board meetings in Hungary and Italy on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February and the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September respectively, offered the opportunity to support of both governed sports; Wheelchair Fencing and Powerchair Hockey.

- Pal Szekeres, managing his enthusiastic team, is driving Wheelchair Fencing to never reached heights. The extensive competition program passing through Europe, Asia and the Americas is igniting not only the elite. New faces are challenging the elite and will create a dynamic competition at the World Championships to be held in Korea in 2019
- The IWAS Powerchair Hockey, managed by Fabio Rodo, have had a fantastic year. The World Championships organised in Lignano Sabbiadoro crowned a surprised Italian team after dominating Denmark in an exciting final. The development of the Powerchair Hockey in countries such as Estonia and Russia have been a positive step forward for the sport

Both IWAS governed sports continue to invest resources on updating classification, organising seminars for officials, widening the practise in new countries and regions at assessible costs.

As claimed by our members a visible medium-term Games Program has been officialised. After the IWAS Games in Sharjah / UAE hold in February 219, the IWAS flag flutter in Nakhon Ratchasima in February 2020 before joining Russia in 2021.

Our different board members invested successfully their engagement in their different affected areas. Let me just point out:

- The great job done in developing the membership structure by Mrs Maryam Shokouhi
- The efforts made by Mrs Dina Sotiriadi for the restructure of our Games Committee
- Mr Pavel Rozhkov, our second Vice President, with the support of Dr Guzel Idrisova, accomplished a tremendous job by putting in accordance to the WADA compliance our Anti Doping regulations
- The preparation for bringing forward the IWAS Games in Sharjah made by Mr Tariq Sultan Ahmaed Alkhadim, seconded by Abdel Nasr

Without neglecting Mr Karl Vilhelm Nielsen for the legal supports, Mr Bob Paterson for finances, Mr Ernesta Strydom and Mr Pal Szekeres for advice through their expertise in sports and of course Mr Paul DePace, president Emeritus, for his experience.

But what could have be achieved without the hard work and unwavering dedication from the "office"? Thank you; Charmaine, Elin, Hilary and Stacey...

· Vidi

Rudi Van Den Abbeele IWAS President (2017-2021)



# **ABOUT IWAS**

Following the vision of its creator and founder, Sir Ludwig Guttmann, IWAS was formed in 2004 following the amalgamation of the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation and the International Sport Organisation for the Disabled. As the original founders of the Paralympic Games movement, IWAS has continued to provide its 65+ international members with competition and sporting opportunities for physically impaired athletes in maintaining its vision to "Inspire Worldwide Achievements in Sport".

IWAS governs both Powerchair Hockey and the Paralympic sport of Wheelchair Fencing. IWAS also provides support to developing sports and nations to cultivate sporting opportunities available across the world.

IWAS remains a vital mechanism in the Paralympic movement through its international pathway from grass-roots sport to Paralympic elite. The IWAS Under 23 World Games and IWAS World Games sees athletes of all abilities from 14 years up to 'Masters' (40 years +) participating on an international platform.

The International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) is a Charitable Company (limited by Guarantee) and registered in England and Wales with Companies House (2713410) and the Charity Commission (1011552). As a UK registered charity, the work of IWAS reaches far beyond sporting achievements of physically impaired athletes. IWAS receives no government funding and relies fully on capitation and membership fees and an international volunteer base for its work. IWAS works tirelessly in the promotion of welfare and social change across the globe through the medium of sport.

# **IWAS PURPOSE STATEMENTS**

# **VALUES**

Sportsmanship, Unity, Respect & Friendship

## **VISION**

Develop sporting opportunities for athletes to maximise their potential

# **MISSION**

**GAMES** 

Inspire Worldwide Achievements in Sport

# **IWAS ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NATIONS** 

**EXECUTIVE BOARD** 



DEVELOPMENT

 The Executive Management Committee was disbanded in 2018 in line with the new Constitution.

SPORTS SCIENCE & MEDICAL

ANTI-DOPING

## **IWAS MEMBERSHIP**

In December 2017, the IWAS General Assembly voted in favour of a new IWAS Membership Policy aimed at broadening the Membership base and providing greater opportunity for more athletes around the world.

The Policy, which allows more than one IWAS Member per country, offers a three-tier system including Full Members, Secondary Members while maintaining the Developing Membership of the previous Policy. The new Policy also sees the inclusion of IWAS Partners, aimed at research institutes, universities, rehabilitation centres & hospitals as well as sponsors and funders.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

The 2018 Membership saw Indonesia NPC become a Member, with their wheelchair fencing team compete on home soil at Asia Para Games. Czech Sports Association for the Physically Handicapped took advantage of the new Secondary Membership which allowed them to enter a team of four competing in athletics at the IWAS Youth World Games 2018.

Interest from organisations in Nepal, India, Algeria and Morocco were received in late 2018, keen to join the 2019 Membership.

The following map shows the spread of the 2018 IWAS Membership;



# IWAS FULL MEMBERS

ADCENTINA	Argentine Federacies de departes Cebro Cille de Duedes (FADECID)
ARGENTINA	Argentine Federacion de deportes Sobre Silla de Ruedas (FADESIR)
AUSTRALIA	Disability Sports Australia
AUSTRIA	Oesterreichischer Behindertensportverband
AZERBAIJAN	Azerbaijan NPC
BELARUS	Belarus NPC
BELGIUM	Belgian Paralympic Committee
BRAZIL	Brazilian Paralympic Committee
BULGARIA	Bulgarian Paralympic Association
CANADA	Canadian Fencing Federation
CHINA	Chinese Disabled Persons Federation
CHINESE TAIPEI	Chinese Taipei Paralympic Committee
CROATIA	Croatian Paralympic Committee
CYPRUS	Cyprus Para Sport Federation
CZECH REPUBLIC	Czech Sports Organisation for the Physically Disabled
DENMARK	Parasport Denmark
ESTONIA	Estonia NPC
FINLAND	Finnish Sports Association of Persons with Disabilities
FRANCE	Federation Française Handisport
GEORGIA	Georgian NPC
GERMANY	Germany NPC - Deutscher Behindertensportverband e.V
GREAT BRITAIN	WheelPower British Wheelchair Sport
GREECE	Greece: Hellenic Sports Federation for Persons with Disabilities
HONG KONG	Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association
HUNGARY	Hungarian NPC
INDONESIA	NPC Indonesia
INDIA	NPC India
IRAN	IRI Sports Federation for the Disabled
IRAQ	Iraq NPC
IRELAND	Ireland - Irish Wheelchair Association Sport
ISRAEL	Israel NPC
ITALY	Italian Paralympic Committee
JAPAN	Japanese Paralympic Committee
KAZAKHSTAN	Kazakhstan Republic of, NPC
KOREA	Korea Disabled Veterans Organisation
KUWAIT	Kuwait Disabled Sport Club
LATVIA	Latvian SOD
LITHUANIA	Lithuanian Sports Federation for the Disabled
MACAU	Macau NPC
MALAYSIA	Persatuan Orang-Orang Cacat Anggota Malaysia
NETHERLANDS	Netherlands NPC
NORWAY	Norwegian Olympic Committee & Confederation of Sports
POLAND	Polish Sports Association for the Disabled
PORTUGAL	Federacao Portuguesa de Desporto para Pessoas com Deficiencia
RUSSIA	Russian Federation of Sports for Persons with Physical Impairment
SINGAPORE	Singapore Disability Sports Council
SLOVAKIA	Slovak Sports Association for the Disabled
SLOVENIA	Sports Federation for the Disabled Slovenia (NPC)
SOUTH AFRICA	South African Sports Association for Physically Disabled (SASAPD)

SPAIN	Spanish Sports Federation for People with Physical Disabilities (FEDDF)
SWEDEN	Parasport Sweden
SWITZERLAND	Wheelchair Sport Switzerland
THAILAND	Sports Association of the Disabled of Thailand
TURKEY	Turkish National Paralympic Committee
UAE	UAE Disabled Sports Federation (NPC)
UKRAINE	Ukraine NPC
USA	Adaptive Sports USA

# **IWAS SECONDARY MEMBERS**

# **IWAS DEVELOPING MEMBERS**

ROMANIA	Romania Paralympic Committee
URUGUAY	Uruguayan Fencing Federation

# IWAS EXECUTIVE BOARD & SERVING OFFICERS 2017-2021

PRESIDENT Rudi Van Den Abbeele France

VICE PRESIDENT
Dr Tariq Sultan bin Khadem
UAE

2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT Pavel Rozhkov *Russia* 

HONORARY TREASURER
Bob Paterson
Great Britain

# **MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Dina Sotiriadi Games Committee *Greece*  Ernesta Strydom Games Committee South Africa Maryam Shokouhi Membership Group Iran

Pal Szekeres Wheelchair Fencing Chairman *Hungary*  Karl Vilhelm Nielsen Legal & Ethical Working Group Denmark

Paul DePace President Emeritus United States of America

# **IWAS STAFF**

Charmaine Hooper leads the Headquarters at Aylesbury College as Chief Executive Officer following her official appointment in 2015.

Hilary Sahota continues to work as Sports Manager in her role focussing on competition management and development of Wheelchair Fencing including classification and education. She has also arranged several research projects conducted with leading universities focussed on the classification system and equipment advances.

Stacey Ashwell took maternity leave from her role as Sports Manager overseeing IWAS Powerchair Hockey administrative support and anti-doping operations, in February 2018 and is due to return early 2019.

Elin Luce continues her work as IWAS Head of Operations focussing on Membership and Games, taking the lead in the HQ organisation of the IWAS Youth World Games 2018 in Athlone, Ireland.

# **CONTRACTORS**

Previous Assistant Honorary Treasurer, Rachel Andrews started as a book-keeping contractor in April 2018 to assist the Headquarters in its financial obligations and day-to-day accounting.

Lucy Dominy started in her contracted role as IWAS Communications Manager responsible for the management of IWAS social media channels, news reporting and website updates. Lucy continues to lead the upcoming re-launch of the IWAS website due for Spring/Summer 2019.

# **HEADQUARTERS**

The IWAS Headquarters remains in the same facility at the Buckinghamshire College Group and continues providing a positive environment, while maintaining an annual saving of £3000 from the previous office space at Stoke Mandeville Stadium.



## **IWAS STRATEGIC PLAN**

From 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018, the IWAS Executive Board gathered in Lignano Sabbiadoro, Italy, for the 2019-2023 Strategic Planning session, led by facilitator, Morgan Buckley.

The planning session, aimed at outlining the direction for IWAS over the coming four years, explored the vision and mission of IWAS, as well as the future of the IWAS Games programme and developments of IWAS governed sports.

To strengthen the lines of communication for the IWAS governed sports, it was agreed that the Chairman of both IWAS Wheelchair Fencing and IWAS Powerchair Hockey would automatically be appointed as non-voting Members of the Board. While Pal Szekeres remains an elected Member of the Board, IWAS Powerchair Hockey Chairman, Fabio Rodo, will join his first IWAS Executive Board Meeting in 2019 in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

The continuity and growth of the Games programme was discussed, with emphasis focussed on new additions to the current programme. The proposal of a 'Guttmann Games', named in recognition of IWAS founder, Sir Ludwig Guttmann, for sports not on the Paralympic programme was strongly supported, with plans in place for its first edition in 2020.

The formation of an 8-year regular 'Games host cycle' was also proposed, to allow for Members to know of Games dates and location further in advance to aide in more effective planning. Repeat hosting on this proposed cycle would also allow for quality assurance as well as the ability to improve the upon the Games, year on year.

Following its approval at the 2017 IWAS General Assembly and subsequent feedback, the IWAS Membership structure was also evaluated in great detail by the Board, supported by a comprehensive evaluation of the proposal by IWAS Board Member and Membership Working Group representative, Maryam Shokouhi (IRI). The Executive Board, in full support of the opening of the Membership to more than one organisation per country, maintained its support of the inclusion of Secondary Members alongside Full and Developing Members. The introduction of 'Partners' was also discussed for bodies such as universities, hospitals and media outlets.

The Strategic Plan continues to be a working document and will be distributed to the IWAS Membership in early 2019.



The IWAS Youth World Games 2018 was hosted from 30<sup>th</sup> June to 6<sup>th</sup> July in Athlone, Ireland hosting a sports programme of athletics, swimming and table tennis.

After successfully taking on the role of Organising Committee in the 2017 edition of the World Games and having seen the benefits in ensuring consistency in delivery and regaining control over the quality of the Games; the 2018 were once again to be led by IWAS HQ with the support of IWAS Member, Irish Wheelchair Association Sport (IWA-Sport).

The Games welcomed 250 participants from the following 16 countries; Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt (solidarity programme), Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Poland, Romania, South Africa, Thailand, UAE, USA





The IWAS Youth World Games athletes competed in athletics, table tennis and swimming in three age groups, – under 23, under 20 and under 18, in the facilities of the Athlone Institute of Technology and the Athlone Regional Sport Centre (swimming).

Classification was hosted in both athletics and table tennis over the opening two days of the Games, alongside training for all sports (1-2 July 2018), followed by three days of competition (3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018).





Aubrey Headon, a T35 athlete, celebrated gold in the long jump with a Americas record leap of 2.56m in the women's under 20 category. The 18-year-old was handed the IWAS Ambulant athlete with International Potential award as a result of her triumph.

S1 swimmer, Poland's. Trochimczuk, 15, claimed the Sir Ludwig Guttmann Paraplegic Sports Federation Wheelchair Athlete with International Potential award after winning the 50m and 100m freestyle and 50m backstroke. Both athletes also received 700 GBP towards their participation at a future IWAS World Games.





A gala dinner and party hosted at official Games hotel, the Sheraton Athlone Hotel drew the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Youth Games to a fitting, celebratory close.





The Inaugural IWAS Women's World Games 2018 due to be hosted from 27 August to 1 September 2018 in the city of Worcester, UK, was postponed indefinitely following insufficient entries.

The Games were due to host a varied sports programme including, Para athletics, Para badminton, Para table tennis. Para taekwondo and Wheelchair fencing across three venues in the city; the University of Worcester Arena, the country's first sporting arena purpose-designed for athletes with physical impairments. Malvern College and Nunnery Wood Sport Complex.

World Taekwondo, which were due to host a Para Taekwondo world ranking event for the Tokyo 2020 at the IWAS Women's World Games 2018 and having attracted the most athletes of all sports on the programme, withdrew from the sports programme in mid-June siting financial viability. Following the unfortunate departure of Para Taekwondo, the IWAS Executive Board took the difficult decision to postpone the first edition of the Games, indefinitely.

Following the announcement of the postponement, IWAS President Rudi Van Den Abbeele said: "We are very, very disappointed to have to re-schedule the IWAS Women's World Games. With just over two months to go, we were excited about holding a pioneering competition where female athletes could enjoy a unique platform to shine."

"However, we also feel strongly that all our events should be as competitive as possible. The athletes deserve to face a deep field, especially as for some it will be their first international event."

IWAS received fantastic support from the host partners in University of Worcester and those countries that entered teams, who have expressed their future backing of this addition to the IWAS events programme.

# OTHER ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	LOCATION & DATE	PURPOSE
IWAS Honorary Treasurer, Bob Paterson awarded MBE	Queen's New Year's Honour List January 2018	As nominated by IWAS, Bob Paterson was awarded a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)14 for 'Services to Paralympic sport'.
Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games Site Visit	Tokyo, Japan 7-13 January 2018	Charmaine Hooper and IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Secretary General, Udo Ziegler attended the Tokyo 2020 site visit representing the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee
Final meeting and launch of wheelchair fencing frame prototype	Imperial College London 19 January 2018	The students from Imperial College London unveiled their prototype and accompanying instructional manuals and videos for building a beginner's wheelchair fencing frame. Attended by Charmaine Hooper, Hilary Sahota and Bob Paterson MBE.
Training day with Sport:80, IWAS Management System	Sheffield, UK 30 January 2018	IWAS HQ staff attended a training day in Sheffield aimed at enhancing the staff's knowledge to better assist the Membership's use of the system.
Hungarian Paralympic Committee 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	Budapest, Hungary 21 February 2018	Charmaine Hooper attended the Hungarian NPC 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration hosted in Budapest.
International Sport Federation's Open Day	Bonn, Germany 22 May 2018	An Open Day hosted by IPC to allow IFs to have small meetings with IPC staff in all relevant departments. Attended by Charmaine Hooper and Pal Szekeres.
Women in Sport Conference	Gaborone, Botswana 16–20 May 2018	Charmaine Hooper attended a conference promoting Women in Sport in Botswana
IPC Head of Classification Meeting	Bonn, Germany 14-15 July 2018	Charmaine Hooper and Head of Classification for IWAS Wheelchair Fencing, Anita Lazlo, attended the Head of Classification meeting hosted at IPC HQ.
World Para Athletics European Championships	Berlin, Germany 24 -27 August 2018	Charmaine Hooper attended the WPA European Championships in Berlin, Germany and was also involved in the presentation at victory ceremonies.
IPC Gathering	Madrid, Spain 7-9 September 2018	Rudi Van Den Abbeele, Charmaine Hooper and Pal Szekeres attended the IPC Gathering which included IPC Strategic Planning discussions.
IWAS Strategic Planning Meeting	Lignano, Italy 24-26 September 2018	In conjunction with the IWAS Powerchair Hockey World Championships, the IWAS Board took part in the IWAS Strategic Planning meeting led by facilitator, Morgan Buckley.
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Sport Congress	Tblisi, Georgia. 10 November 2018	Rudi Van Den Abbeele attending the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Sport Congress, led by Chairman, Pal Szekeres
IWAS World Games 2020 Site Visit	Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand	Rudi Van Den Abbeele, visited the host city of the IWAS World Games 2020 including sports facilities and accommodation proposed for the teams.



# 2018 COMPETITIONS

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing continued to offer an extensive competition calendar in 2018 including three regional championships.

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Eger, Hungary | 15-18 February 2018

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Pisa, Italy | 9-11 March 2018

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Montreal, Canada | 27-29 April 2018

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Warsaw, Poland | 5-9 July 2018

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing 17U/23U World Championships Warsaw, Poland | 10-14 July 2018

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Americas Regional Championships Saskatoon, Canada | 13-16 September 2018

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing European Regional Championships
Terni, Italy | 17-23 September 2018

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Asian Regional Championships Jakarta, Indonesia | 7-11 October 2018

> IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Tbilisi, Georgia | 8-11 November 2018

> IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Kyoto, Japan | 13-16 December

# IWAS WHEELCHAIR FENCING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wheelchair Fencing, as a sport section of IWAS, elects its own Executive Committee every four years during its biennial Sport Assemblies. The new Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee was elected at the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Sport Assembly in Pisa on 13 November 2016.

CHAIRMAN Pal Szekeres *Hungary*  SECRETARY GENERAL
Udo Ziegler
Germany

VICE-CHAIRMAN Jakub Nowicki Poland

COMMITTEE MEMBER
Peter Huggins
Great Britain

COMMITTEE MEMBER Giampeiro Pastore Italy COMMITTEE MEMBER Arno Schneider Brazil

COMMITTEE MEMBER
Pascal Godet
France

HEAD OF CLASSIFICATION Anita Laszlo Hungary

# **CHAIR OF COMMISSIONS**

SEMI COMMISSION Peter Huggins Great Britain SPORTS COMMISSION Arno Schneider Brazil PROMOTION COMMISSION Ksenia Ovsyannikova Russia

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Peter Brigola
Austria

REFEREE COMMISSION
Jon Moss
United States

RULES COMMISSION Emmanual Bogdos *Greece* 

DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION
Jakub Nowicki
Poland

COACHES COUNCIL Pascal Godet France ATHLETE'S COUNCIL Yu Chui Yee Hong Kong

# WORLDWIDE REACH

There is evidence of 50 nations actively practicing Wheelchair Fencing around the world. Nations who are not active in national or international competition are a focus for the development of Wheelchair Fencing and will need to be supported to enable their engagement in IWAS competitions.



Wheelchair Fencing Nations are Members that have sent at least one fencer to an official and sanctioned IWAS Wheelchair Fencing competition in the last two fencing seasons (including the current season). Nations indicated below with '\*' are actively developing wheelchair fencing supported by IWAS Wheelchair Fencing and its Executive Committees.

# MEETINGS & FORUMS

Tokyo 2020 - Site Visit	7-11 January 2018 Tokyo, Japan	Charmaine Hooper (CH) and Udo Ziegler visited Tokyo to do a site visit of the proposed venue and area for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. Following the visit several changes and improvements were discussed with the LOC and all preparations are ongoing.
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee Meeting	18 <sup>th</sup> February <i>Eger, Hungary</i>	The main topics of discussion was the Qualification system for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics, its site visit and the competition bids and Calendar for 2019-2020.
Hungary NPC 20th Anniversary	21-23 February Budapest, Hungary	Celebration of the 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hungary NPC
IF Open Day	22-23 June IPC Headquarters, Bonn	CH, Pal Szekeres and Rudi Van den Abbeele invited to the IF open Day for general discussions with Departments from the IPC.
IF Head of classification Meeting	14-15 July IPC Headquarters, Bonn	CH and Anita Laszlo attending the HoC meeting where discussion regarding the Classification audit, implementation of the code, International standards and future challenges took place.
IPC IF membership Gathering	7-9 September <i>Madrid, Spain</i>	This included a presentation regarding the future of Classification and topics for discussion.
New Appointment for IWAS WF Head of Classification	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2018	Dr Man Chung officially steps down as the HoC an Anita Laszlo (HUN) is the new IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Head of Classification.
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Meeting	9 <sup>th</sup> November <i>Tbilisi, Georgia</i>	A meeting of the WFEC took place with the main discussion points being, clarification of the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics qualification, approval of competition bids and Calendar and some minor rule changes to poules round format.
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Congress	10 <sup>th</sup> November <i>Tbilisi, Georgia</i>	The biannual Sport congress took place in Tbilisi giving an update of Wheelchair Fencing and development to its members and discussing motions.

## **DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING**

#### **EUROPE**

#### Referee Seminar | Eger, Hungary | 14-15 February 2018

Course Leader – Jozsef Nagy (HUN)

The Referee course was run using the new format and procedures introduced by Jon Moss, Chair of the Referee Commission.

13 candidates attended the course from HUN, JPN, FRA, HKG, UKR, BLR and RUS. A total of 12 candidates passed their examinations and went on to gain a class B Referee Accreditation.

#### Referee Seminar | Tbilisi, Georgia | 7-10 November 2018

Course Leader – Peter Brigola (AUT)

14 candidates took part from AZE, GEO,ISR and KOR. Of the 14 candidates all passed in at least one or two weapons and 7 candidates passed examinations in all three weapons.

#### **ASIA**

#### Referee Seminar | Jakarta, Indonesia | 11-12 August 2018

Course Leader – Jozsef Nagy (HUN)

In the run up to the Asian Para Games, which included the Regional Championships for Wheelchair Fencing, the Seminar was organised to train and accredit referees from Indonesia and Malaysia. Of the 15 candidates that participated in the course, a total of 12 passed the written and practical examinations.

#### SEMI Training | Jakarta, Indonesia | 11 – 12 August 2018

Course Leader – Peter Huggins (GBR)

A comprehensive seminar was presented to the SEMI Officials and weapons control personnel of the Asia Para Games. IWAS equipment rules and weapons checks protocols were discussed and officials tested for their proficiency.

#### Referee Seminar | Jeollabuk-do, Korea | 26-28 October 2018

Course Leader – Peter Brigola.(AUT)

13 candidates from Korea took part in the Seminar attended by a translator. The Referees were of a high standard but lacking in English which prevented them from passing their written and practical examinations. The candidates have been encouraged to expand their language skills in English which would be required for IWAS WF Referee Accreditation.

#### **AMERICAS**

#### Combined Coaching & Classification Course | Costa Rica | 25-29 June 2018

Course Leaders: Pascal Godet (coaching – FRA) & Dr Man Chung (classification – HKG)

A successful coaching and training camp catered for athletes and coaches from Colombia, Japan, Jamaica and Costa Rica providing a valuable introduction for many of the coaches and athletes into the sport. Coaches were given the techniques and confidence to continue with their coaching education and to further the sport upon return to their own countries.

A Classification Seminar was given to candidates from Colombia and Costa Rica, who obtained a national level accreditation. Participating countries showed great enthusiasm to continue promotion of the sport and are confident to have internationally accredited classifiers in the future.



# **IWAS GRANT PROJECTS**

#### IWAS WHEELCHAIR FENCING SATELLITE COMPETITIONS

In an effort to create depth in the international competition calendar, IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Satellite Competitions were introduced in 2017 as part of the international pathway.

Satellite Competitions are open to all wheelchair fencers, providing a development competition for international debuts and for those who have not yet entered the World Cup circuit. The competitions have their own ranking system, independent of the World Cup rankings and provide an opportunity for fencers who wish to enter a separate ranked competition, as well as for junior and novice fencers who want to enter a lower entry level competition.

**IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Satellite Epee Competition | 14th April 2018 | Antibes, France**Organised by Escrime Handisport, Federation Francaise, this first Satellite competition in France had entries from France, Great Britain and Lebanon and provided an exciting epee competition for some new and novice fencers. This Satellite competition is expected to return in 2019.

**IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Satellite Sabre Competition | 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 | Sarrebourg, France** Escrime Handisport, Federation Francaise In conjunction with the Sarrebourg Fencing Club hosted a second Satellite competition in France, this time in sabre. Athletes from France and Georgia competed in Women and Men's sabre in this friendly competition.

#### RESEARCH PROJECTS WITH IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

#### **Fencing Frame**

A project that was initiated in 2017 came to fruition, with the final design and production of the IWAS inexpensive, beginner's wheelchair fencing frame. Designed and engineered by three female students from ICL, the designs and production video are freely available on the IWAS website to all nations to encourage participation in the sport and to reduce the costs of equipment.

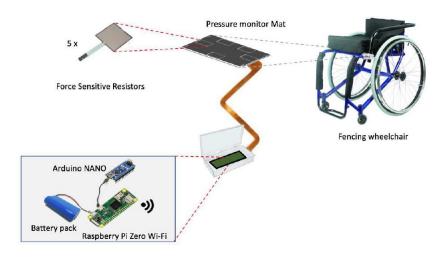
Following on from this project, Costa Rica have also started to design their own version of a beginner's frame and we hope that these developments continue to inspire others to take up the challenge.



#### **Pressure Sensor**

A group of students investigated the possibility and design of a pressure sensor for use in wheelchair fencing. The premise was to develop a system that would detect 'lifting' from the fencing wheelchair during competition and to effectively notify the referee of this rule-break. A pressure sensor mat prototype was produced, and plans released to IWAS.

This project is currently still in the development stage as further discussions continue relating the sensor's testing protocols and future introduction.



#### **Upper Limb Prosthesis Scaling**

As the advances in medical research and treatment continue to improve, it is predicted that there will be an increase in the number of wheelchair fencing athletes who use upper limb prosthesis and a recommendation to define the maximum allowable length of upper limb prostheses was sought.

Dr Angela Kedgley and Dr Christopher Philips from Imperial College London have undertaken research into the current anthropometric methods and literature review, in order to provide recommendations regarding the use of upper limb prostheses in wheelchair fencing, the rules for which are defined by IWAS.

#### **Classification Research**

IWAS is committed to ongoing research to develop an evidence-based classification system as defined by IPC. After a classification audit submitted to IPC, various areas for development were recommended and a Research Programme was initiated.

Research is ongoing and provided by Mr Alex Viliere, Associate Lecturer from Middlesex University, with support from the Middlesex University department of Sport Science.

The research will provide data to enable the current classification system to be assessed and to enable any new introduction of further classification tests required, or modifications to the classification system, to be IPC compliant and evidence based.

The classification research will continue throughout 2019 and 2020.

#### COMMONWEALTH FENCING FEDERATION DEMONSTRATION

Through the grant projects fund, IWAS Wheelchair Fencing contributed £800 towards the staging of a wheelchair fencing demonstration at the Commonwealth Fencing Federation Senior and Veteran Championships 2018. The main event attended by 14 nations, including developing wheelchair fencing nations, Jamaica, South Africa and Australia, saw 432 fencers compete across six days in the Australian capital, Canberra.

The accompanying demonstration commentated by Viv Mills, Secretary of British Disability Fencing, welcomed Australian wheelchair fencers, Rodney Woolley and Tom Edwards along with their coach Andrew Kalinowski.

The Commonwealth Fencing Federation has expressed interest in including wheelchair fencing competition events at future championships.



#### **DONATION OF EQUIPMENT**

In conjunction with a joint project between NPC Morocco and NPC Hungary, IWAS donated 3000 euros for the purchase of a wheelchair fencing frame.

Following the frame's arrival in Rabat, Morocco, IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Chairman, Pal Szekeres, attended a wheelchair fencing exhibition and demonstration, where the frame will be on long term loan for development and growth of the sport in the country.





# **SPORTS CONGRESS 2018**

The aim of the Sport Executive Committee, along IWAS suggestion to re-name the Sport Assembly and make it more interactive, has decided for the name of IPCH Sport Congress.

The plan of this is to include as much as possible workshops and interactive discussions to promote the involvement of the Nations on the IPCH topics in order to defying the long term objectives and strategy for development as much as possible together. Sport Executive Committee is also working on developing a platform to allow collaboration and international discussion on motions and proposal for the next Sport Congress 2020.

# IWAS POWERCHAIR HOCKEY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

During the Sport Congress 2018 the Elections for Sport Executive Committee for the period 2018-2022 took place.

CHAIRMAN Fabio Rodo *Italy*  DEVELOPMENT OFFICER Nikolaj Richelsen Denmark TECHNICAL & CLASSIFICATION
OFFICER
Anna Rossi
Italy

SECRETARY OFFICER Kenny Verbraekel Belgium MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICER
Rasmus Dissing Nielsen
Denmark

COMPETITIONS OFFICER Niels ten Hagen (appointed) The Netherlands

HEAD OF CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

HEAD OF REFEREE COMMITTEE

HEAD OF JURY COMMITTEE HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Kees Van Breukelen
The Netherlands

Davor Matijasevic Slovenia Dorte Berenth

Denmark

Nikolaj Richelsen Denmark

Sport Executive Committee meetings are held every three weeks. Meetings are also held with the Head of Committees, volunteers or other SEC Members to discuss additional or specific matters, as necessary.

Fabio Rodo, IWAS Powerchair Hockey Chairman, holds a skype call with IWAS Headquarters on a weekly basis or as is necessary.

#### **CLASSIFICATION**

Research on the Arm was completed in April and May 2018 based on the data collected from 70 recently classified Dutch national players and another 70 international players from Italy, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Belgium, Finland and Denmark.

After this data was discussed within the Classification Committee, an updated, practical, systematic classification procedure has been created which will make Arm profiles more reliable without changing the way classifiers assess athletes. This will make the PCH classification system more precise and balanced.

A revision of the IPCH Classification Manual has, therefore, been developed and will become effective after the WC 2018.

#### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OFFICIALS

In agreement with the Sport Executive Committee the process of analysing, inviting and appointing Officials has been completed. A small number of invited Officials had to decline or withdraw invitation due to personal and work-related issues, where possible these Officials were substituted by the next Officials in line. The aim was to have the best Officials present according to previous competition feedbacks.

#### **Jury Members and Referee Observers**

The growing needs of our sport brought us to the decision of trialling two kinds of Jury Members: Referee Observers and Technical Jury Members.

Referee Observers will have the task to observe and give feedback to our Referees with the aim of supporting them in increasing their skills and expertise. Technical Jury Member will have the task of supervising the Match table, the speed controls and the point system on the field.

IPCH will provide the new Referee Observers and Technical Jury Members with the relevant education/training in the days before the start of the competition which will be delivered by Senior Officials.

To become a Referee Observers and Technical Jury Members spoken English is a requirement, in addition to this the knowledge of rules and regulations of the sport is important, previous experience with referee observation in PCH or other sports are welcome.

#### **Jury Handbook & Referee Handbook Revision**

Before Word Championship a new version of the Jury Handbook and Referee Handbook were completed. Additional editing will also be done for them to be in line with the new IPCH visual identity. As soon as ready they will be updated on the website.

#### Officials Register and Licence system

Registers of all Officials' have been updated according to the courses' attendance and feedbacks.

Licences have been prepared thanks to the collaboration with the Marketing and Communication Committee and will be sent to all before the World Championship and from now on periodically updated.

#### WORLD RANKING SYSTEM

During the Sport Congress 2018 the new concept of the World Ranking System (WRS) and the current ranking was shared among the Nations. The new WRS is based on the results of the individual games, putting more weight on newer results. Each team will get points for every game they play based on the result, the opponent and the type of tournament the games are played in.

2008 was chosen as base year since from that moment the Official Competition have been all regularly played every 2 years. All games played since that in official events are used in calculating the current World Ranking List (WRL), updating the list after each tournament.

New teams will be added on the bottom of the WRL. Teams will also get points for participating in tournaments and placing in the top three on Regional Championships (ex. Europeans Championship) or World Championships.

The WRL is updated after each tournament, adding the total match points a team has gained during the tournament, the participation points and possible bonus to the points the team had before the tournament started.

On the 1st of January each year the points are multiplied with 0.8, this guarantees that more recent results have more weight than older ones.

#### **DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETITIONS**

#### **Development in Estonia and Russia**

Estonia has one official competition team therefore they can participate in the Finnish league which was an excellent gesture from Finland to help their neighbours develop. This year it was decided to have the final match of the league in Estonia to empower the cooperation between the two nations. Estonia organised this match day under the flag of the Finish Federation.

Following on from this success another nation is now interested in participating in the Finnish league, Russia. Estonia and Finland have invited Russia to visit Tallinn on a match day to get more acquainted with the sport and get in touch with officials from Finland and Estonia.

Former IPCH development officer Niels ten Hagen was very happy to hear this and decided to visit the tournament. Some unofficial matches were played between Russia against Finland and Estonia against Russia. This was a great step in the development of PCH for Russia.

To build momentum following this tournament several meetings were held with representatives from Russia, Estonia and Finland. Estonia has ensured they will do everything within their power to compete at the Qualification Tournament 2019 for the European Championship 2020.

There is still some way to go for Russia before they will be able to be invited for the Qualification Tournament. Russia is also interested in organising a development event or bidding for a competition in the near future.

#### Qualification Tournament for European Championship awarded to Czech Republic

The bid from the Czech Republic was great, it was clear that they put a lot of effort into preparing their bid. SEC discussed the bidding package on several criteria including information they received from conducting a site visit. We can explicitly share that they have used the advice given after the previous bid for the World Championship 2018 was declined. The Czech Republic has done everything within their power to work on the challenges and have come with great solutions. The offered venue is adequate for a Qualification Tournament of this size with a maximum of six nations.

#### **ParaGames Breda 2019 Invitation**

The next edition of Para Games Breda will be held from 27th to 30th June 2019.

An invitation has been spread to all PCH Nations IPCH is in contact with. IPCH is also considering a possible participation in the tournament by planning a classification session or some educational courses or developing event.

#### **Bidding procedure EC2020**

A letter of Intent for hosting the competition has been received from Finland. The procedure is now ongoing and site inspection will be organised in 2019.

#### MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

After Italy was appointed to hosting the World Championship 2018, we have been working together with the Local Organising Committee (LOC) to promote the event. Instagram and Facebook pages managed by both the LOC and IPCH have been made the most of.

We see a lot of interest for Powerchair Hockey from many new countries therefore we released a short 30 seconds video explaining the basics of Powerchair Hockey. It serves as a short introduction of Powerchair Hockey for people that are new to the sport.

For the first time IPCH had a communication team working at the World Championship. They managed all IPCH communication as well as produce photo and video content for social media to be used both under and after the World Championship. They worked closely with the communication team from the LOC.

# **ANTI-DOPING REPORT**

Provided by Dr Guzel Idrisova, Head of IWAS Anti-doping and IWAS 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President responsible for IWAS Anti-doping, Pavel Rozhkov

IWAS continues to work in cooperation with WADA to educate nations about anti-doping and to promote clean sport throughout 2018.

Dr Guzel Idrisova, of the International Paralympic Committee Medical Committee was appointed as IWAS Head of Anti-Doping in 2018 to manage the anti-doping requirements of IWAS as a sport governing body and games organiser.

TESTS CONDUCTED IN 2018	IN COMP	OUT OF COMP	ADVERSE ANALYTICAL FINDING
	Testing conducted 12 hours prior and during competition	Testing conducted at any time outside of a competition or sporting event	A report from a laboratory or other WADA approved testing entity that identifies in a specimen the presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers, or evidence of the use of a prohibited method
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup	6	-	-
Eger, Hungary   15-18 February 2018 IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup	_		
Pisa, Italy   9-11 March 2018	6	-	-
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup	6	_	-
Montreal, Canada   27-29 April 2018	Ü		
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Warsaw, Poland   5-9 July 2018	4	-	-
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing 17U/23U World			
Championships	2	_	-
Warsaw, Poland   10-14 July 2018			
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Americas Championships	6	_	_
Saskatoon, Canada   13-16 September 2018	0		
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing European Championships Terni, Italy   17-23 September 2018	9	-	1
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Asian Championships Jakarta, Indonesia   7-11 October 2018	-	-	-
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Tbilisi, Georgia   8-11 November 2018	6	-	-
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Kyoto, Japan   13-16 December	6	-	-
IWAS Youth World Games 2018 Athlone, Ireland   30 June – 6 July 2018	7	-	-
IWAS Powerchair Hockey World Championships 2018 Lignano Sabbiadoro, Italy   24 Sep 2018 – 1 Oct 2018	12	-	1
RTP x 2 Athletes	0	0	0
TOTAL	70	0	2

#### CREATING A REGULAR TEST POOL (RTP) AND OUT-OF-COMPETITION TESTING

Two wheelchair fencers have been selected as part of the Regular Test Pool for IWAS Wheelchair Fencing.

#### TUE (THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION) AND DOPING COMMITTEES

We continue to use the expertise of our TUE and Anti-Doping Committees.

ADAMS (Anti-Doping Administration and Management System) was created by WADA as a webbased database to assist with the coordination of anti-doping activities and we are now working towards using this system to its full potential.

# PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

IWAS is obliged to produce and file Annual Reports for Companies House and the Charity Commission as well as its membership. IWAS therefore produces two separate reports which together cover all requirements:

- Unaudited Trustee's Report and Financial Statements by Hillier Hopkins LLP (available on request)
- This Annual Activity Report, which covers all the activities of the Federation

Since IWAS qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

# **FINANCES**

In 2018, the organisation received a total income of £395,714 (2017 - £471,724) and ran a net surplus of £8,334 (2017 – surplus of £87,948). IWAS also administers the accounts for IWAS Sports and below are their final account balances as at 31st December 2018:

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing: £11,935 IWAS Powerchair Hockey: £4,332

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS 2018	RESTRICTED FUNDS 2018	TOTAL FUNDS 2018	TOTAL FUNDS 2017
	£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM				
Donations and legacies	123	22,166	22,289	21,486
Investment Income	300	-	300	148
Charitable Activities	345,811	27,314	373,125	450,090
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	346,234	49,480	395,714	471,724
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Raising Funds	9,095	-	9,095	290
Charitable Activities	344,932	33,353	378,285	383,486
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	354,027	33,353	387,380	383,776
NET INCOMING RESOURCES/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES	(7,793)	16,127	8,334	87,948
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(7,793)	16,127	8,334	87,948
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2018	192,097	35,709	227,806	139,858
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018	184,304	51,836	236,140	227,806

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**



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