



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Council of the World Goldpanning Association (WGA)

Date: Thursday, 10th August 2017 at 7:00 PM

Venue: The Annual General Meeting took place at Buccleuch Arms Hotel in Moffat GBR

Attendees: The Delegates from the Member Nations, Board members, Committee Chairperson and the observers. (See attachment 8.)

1. Opening, welcome and legality

Arturo Ramella, the President of WGA, welcomed all the attendees to the meeting; The Delegates from the Member Nations, Board members, Committee Chairperson and all the observers, especially from the countries who have expressed their interest in the activities of WGA.

The meeting was found to be legal and quorum.

2. President's report

Arturo Ramella, The President of WGA:

- “- WGA Board had a successful meeting in Poland, while at National Championships and all Board members were present + Esko Orava from Competition Committee;*
- Many National championships were organized during the year and it was interesting to see so many gold panners going abroad to participate (Esko to tell about details);*
- Social media and website were updated (Jiri to tell about details on behalf of Alba);*
- Board members get in touch all year round through email and messages + SBM and it was a continuous feeding information and exchanging opinions: Very good for WGA life.*

- About competition in the future: Organizers must consider number of participants and local staff must be trained properly and prepared 100% before event starts;*
- Best wishes were expressed to Slovakia, Finland and Czech Republic for their upcoming events.*
- Consider to making a bid to host for European Championships 2021 if Canada get the event in same year.*

- After this Championships we need to have another polishing of the rules, finding the "bugs" there are in them. “*

3. Financial report 1.7.2016 - 30.6.2017 and the Budget of the WGA for the next fiscal year (1.7.2017 – 30.6.2018). (Attachments 2. 3. 4.and 5.)

Eija Orava, the Treasurer, presented the Financial report 1.7.2016 – 30.6.2017
Financial statements 2016-17 and Realized budgets 2016-17 of WGA

Decision: Accepted unanimously

and Budget and Project Budget of next term 2017-18

Decision: Accepted unanimously

4. Communication Committee report

4.1 Alba Iglesias-Gomez, the Chairperson of the Communications Committee was not able to attend the meeting.

Jiri Dunovsky the Vice-President, presented the report of the Communication Committee:

“The main tasks of the Communication Committee are:

- Release the news regarding the Organization of the WGA.
- News regarding the different delegations that form the WGA.
- Publicize the national and international championships.
- Publicize this sport in a general way.

The ways we have for carrying this out are the following:

- Social Networks (Facebook): 909 followers
- Web page: new design launched, 4192 visitors.

We still do not own our domain www.worldgoldpanningassociation.com

-Contact by email

*Please share info about your competitions,
every information about your championship is WELCOME”*

Decision: Accepted unanimously

4.2 Communication Committee 2017

Ordinary members:

Chairperson	Alba Iglesias-Gomez	Spain
Member	Jiri Dunovsky	Czech Republic
Member	Geraldine McCrossan	Italy

Decision: Accepted unanimously

5. Competition Committee report

Esko Orava, the Chairperson of the Competition Committee, presented the report of the Competition Committee:

5.1. Summary of the US World Championships 2016

“Competition Committee’s Report at AGM Moffat 2017

The competitions in Placerville last year went quite well. There were some problems with the computers and results for some of the heats.

With international help the re-runs were avoided.

Two protests were lodged. One of them was cancelled by the competitor and his competition fee was given back. The other was checked from video and it was not valid, so the WGA fund got 20 euros.

Otherwise the competitions went well considering the last world event was held for 18 years ago.

For the very first time the arena was covered with a roof. It was very convenient at least for us from the north.

We will be happy to come to sunny California again!

5.2. Competition Committee 2017

Nominations:

Vilém Jansa from Czech Republic was nominated as a temporary member of CC just after the AGM in California.

And now here I have asked Lorraine Millar from Canada to be a temporary member of Competition Committee as she promised to be.

Esko Orava, the Chairperson of the Competition Committee”

Ordinary members:

Chairperson	Esko Orava	Finland
Vice Chairperson	Eugene Swanepoel	South Africa
Member	Raimo Repola	Finland
Member	Geraldine McCrossan	Italy

Temporary members:

Richard Deighton	Great Britain
Daniela Můčková	Slovakia
Peter Grubenmann	Switzerland
Michael Matus	United States
Vilem Jansa	Czech Republic
Lorraine Millar	Canada

Decision: The Committee report was accepted unanimously

5.3. Updating the Competition Rules, Privacy

(Attachment 6)

Attention, the Organizing Committees of WGA Member Nations.

The Board wants to emphasize the importance of privacy when publishing material and pictures of the events in newspapers, internet and especially in social media (Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, Snapchat et al.).

Local organizer is always responsible that publication is in accordance with the privacy law.

Following sentence should be inserted between current paragraph 8 and 9 in the first chapter "GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR WGA GOLDPANNING CHAMPIONSHIPS":

"By taking part in the championships, competitors give their tacit consent for competition results to be processed and published by the WGA and its Members, in the interests of presenting results to the general public and providing competitors' comparisons, rankings etc."

Decision: Accepted unanimously

6. Bids to host future World Goldpanning Championships

The Board has received following bid for hosting the World Goldpanning Championships:

World Goldpanning Championships in 2021:
Dawson City, Canada

(Attachment 7.)

Paul Robitaille and Lorraine Millar made a presentation of the bid to host 2021 Gold Panning Championships in Dawson City Canada.

Representatives of Canada left the room.

The Meeting decided unanimously to grant Dawson City Canada right to arrange and host 2021 World Gold Panning Championships.

7. Board Election

Raimo Repola has served as a Secretary for 3-year term.

In SBM in Zlotoryja in Poland Raimo Repola was asked to stand as a candidate for Secretary for second 3-year term and he accepted.

Raimo Repola was the only candidate to the post of secretary.

Raimo Repola left the room.

The Delegates of the meeting decided unanimously to elect Raimo Repola for the second 3-year term as the secretary of WGA.

**8. Future of Gold panning, Support to Young panners.
Arturo Ramella, President**

Situation of the projects sponsored by WGA.

The Board is interested in to get more feedback and experiences from the projects done in Spain, USA and South Africa.

Continuing the discussion about the ways of how WGA can help young people to get interested in this hobby.

The Board encourages the Member Nation's associations to add their activity to get more young people and families to be in interested WGA's work and actions.

To support this WGA has reserved a sum of money for projects. The Board is waiting for the applications.

This year in Moffat the Family Panning event will be arranged.

“ FUTURE OF GOLDPANNING

- We are awaiting more projects to be financed by WGA about goldpanning school and kid's activities;

- Keep continuing the discussion on how WGA can help young people to get involved/interested in our hobby;

- We are more than happy that Scotland organizers started the Family panning category;

- I'd like to increase Gold Museums connection to make a net to publish on our website and try to organize common activities in the future.

Yours, Arturo Ramella”

9. Other current issues:

No items

10. Closure of the Meeting.

President Arturo Ramella thanked all the attendees and declared the meeting closed at 21.00.

Attachments:

1. Summary of the Board Meeting (SBM) in Zlotoryja 26.5.2017
2. Realized WGA Budgets 2016-17
3. WGA Budgets 2017-18
4. WGA Financial Statements 30.6.2017, Votes and Fees
5. Bank Statement 30.6.2017 WGA
6. Competition Rules 10.8.2017
7. Application Canada 2021
8. Attendees of the AGM