

Multisport Committee Minutes – public

Meeting: 30 June 2022

Approved 21 July 2022

Duration: via Zoom 00.56.35

Present

- Ahmed Allouch (AM), TUN
- Alicia Garcia (AG), ESP
- Brian Hinton (BH), AUS – Chair
- Melody Tan (MT) MAS
- Tim Yount (TY) USA
- Stefane Mauris (SM), SUI – World Triathlon Staff Liaison
- Daniel Martin (DM) AUT winter triathlon consultant

*For ease of minute taking only first names or initials of the members will be referred to in the minutes. You can see full names above.

Absent

- Qin Jianquiu (QJ), CHI
- Diane Henderson (DH)
- Antonio Alvarez (AA) WT Board representative
- Bernard Saint Jean (BSJ), FRA, WT Board representative
- Nicky Dick (ND) GBR Age group commission representative

Discussion Items	Discussion	Who
1. Welcome and introduction	BH welcomed DM, appointed winter consultant for the committee. BH thanked TY and AG for the work to produce, review and organize the minutes, especially for the notes on the paratriathlon mixed relay.	
2. Apologies/absence	No apologies presented to BH	

<p>3. Approval of Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Last minutes, 21 April–internal version approved - Last minutes, 21 April–public version approved 	
<p>4. Discussion around the plan in the Multisport Congress Report</p>	<p>1. Winter Triathlon Update:</p> <p>DM explained his involvement in Winter Triathlon. He came from Austria and has been involved in winter triathlon for a very long time; he was part of the Multisport Winter triathlon working group in 2016-2020 to revise rules and build out areas of needed operations.</p> <p>Points we need to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 40% increase in world champs’ attendance - Greater athlete ability level in our average field of elite athletes. - Stronger global communications plans - Need to see Winter Triathlon National championships in more NF’s even if they are hosted in neighbor countries <p>2. Team Relay –</p> <p>Review about Montreal MTR and the implications for the MSC</p> <p>Very good experience, WT team was very supportive, provided clear instructions, constant feedback about the entries to have the best teams right up to the final day before competition, easy to replace athletes if needed due to injuries and illnesses, briefings very detailed, athletes knew exactly what they needed to expect and to do. Overall, a very well-done event. The only complication was the movement of people from water’s edge to transition which meant climbing 40 steps then a steep ramp to get out on to the bike. Overall, people enjoyed the event a lot. Next push needs to be an expansion of participation since most of the relays were athletes from CAN, GB, AUS, USA, and MEX.</p> <p>The model used in Montreal could be used for cross triathlon or any discipline. The key is to give attention to the design of the course and to choose the right distance to avoid issues in disparity of time between fast and slow athletes.</p>	

	<p>The point around consideration of this discipline at a future Multisport Worlds is that the Multisport Festival is already a 10-day event, so adding the MTR it would be an additional effort from LOC, volunteers, staff and could add more days to the schedule.</p> <p>Another point made was the number of athletes in cross triathlon for the moment is not big enough to warrant a cross triathlon MTR; maybe that is something to consider over the longer term.</p> <p>3. Meeting of AG Commission in Montreal –</p> <p>Antonio, Tim and Nicky attended the meeting. There was some debate about what the priorities should be. A few arose as areas of noted priority - a stronger global communication plan around what we're doing with World Championships which would target both NFs and athletes. Another priority is to analyse the impact of the split locations for sprint and standard distances. This will be reviewed at the executive board level.</p> <p>Tim raised the issue regarding athletes and federation engagement with our Multisport Championships and the need to have clear information about how to qualify.</p> <p>SM noted that WT is preparing communication to go on Instagram to remind athletes and NFs about the fact that there are still three remaining world championships where athletes can race. All NFs have already received information about qualification.</p> <p>4. Plans for Congress in Abu Dhabi</p> <p>The preliminary plan is to consider a meeting of the MSC and attend other Committee/Commission meetings if schedules allow.</p> <p>Date for the meeting is 24-25 November; info forthcoming on time and location.</p>	
<p>4. World Triathlon Multisport World Championships and other Multisport events update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BH thanked SM for the massive work done by him regarding world championships and the split of the multisport over two locations. - SM provided a report on MS World Championships 2022 Targu Mures <p>Participation was around 1000 athletes for the four events which is low compared what we had prior to COVID. This was the first time for the mixed relay events which saw 14-15 teams compete. The race was very well received by elites and juniors.</p> <p>The number of Para triathletes was also very low.</p>	

	<p>The cross-duathlon course was probably the best ever for a world championship in terms of difficulty and fun. Consideration should be given to shorten cross duathlon to around one hour 15 minutes which should drive interest and support duathlon at the same level as cross tri.</p> <p>Throughout the week, many race adjustments were made including start times and number of laps completed. This might not have proved so problematic except for these shifts taking place after many of the athlete briefings. The course shift in one of the races caused over 40 athletes to miss a run lap, which lead to a jury overriding the noted disqualifications and reinstating athletes just prior to the awards ceremony based an average time for the laps completed. The result was only one shift for a podium spot but problematic in that athlete results supported laps not completed.</p> <p>TY noted that SM managed very difficult circumstances while there and that current feedback from athletes is that they enjoyed the experience.</p> <p>SM further provided comments on the following world championship events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World Triathlon Powerman Long Distance Duathlon championships in Zofingen Going well. - World Triathlon Multisport Championships Samorin 18-21 Aug Going well, organization moving on details. TY will be there with his team; he will be the Multisport Committee representative if needed. - World Beach Games 2023 will be in Indonesia Already announced for Bali, but no additional details just yet - Birmingham, Alabama (U.S.) Duathlon World Games Very challenging relationships with the LOC. Still waiting for the final maps, medical plan was received recently. Expense cuts have led the latest movements. Accommodations have been affected by this. Unfortunately, there have been several withdrawals in the last days for the duathlon event. It was expected to have 40 men, 40 women and 25 teams but we are around 30 women and 34-35 men and 20 teams. <p>One of the issues is duathlon does not have the same support, recognition, and competitive opportunities as triathlon.</p>	
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	<p>The next edition of The World Games is planned for Chengdu 2025. It seems budget is not an issue, but the problem is inside the World Games. Duathlon is the only sport that takes place in an open environment, which adds to production difficulties which is part of what the Birmingham LOC is facing.</p> <p>BH felt It would be important to discuss in a future meeting the association with the World Games contacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ibiza Multisport World Championships 2023 <p>Working team is selected, they had a first site visit with the city days ago. A first meeting will be done soon to move on some of the key details.</p> <p>Progress on MS World Championships 2024 in Townsville is happening. The event was announced but waiting on the date. Test event should be done in 2023.</p> <p>Varia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AG noted there is interest from Andorra to bid for the European Winter Triathlon Champs where it would probably attach a World Cup to the same event. - TY is building on his meetings with Birkebeiner (organizers of the largest ski race in the world), with the push to have then consider a winter triathlon event as well as a gravel duathlon championship. More details forthcoming. - BH provided an update from Australia that some progress is being made with Birkebeiner in that country as well. This season has been difficult due to very busy calendar but cooperation appears to be solid for the future. 	
<p>5. Next meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting on Thursday, 21 July 2022 @ 22:30 CET</p>	