

MINUTES OF THE SPO MEETING – ROUBAIX – 21-23 FEBRUARY 2008

Thursday 21 afternoon

Present: Kenth Sjöblom, Gersende Piernas, Françoise Bosman, Fina Sola I Gasset, Sabine Christe

Absent: Nora Santarelli, Isabella Orefice, Alexandros Krauss, Mbaye Thiam, Perrine Canavaggio

Introduction and welcome by Kenth Sjöblom, Chairman

Round table

Françoise announced the signing in 2007 of an agreement between the Sports Ministry, the National Archives Department and the French Olympic Academy. This stipulates that the public archives are stored at Fontainebleau (like those of the IFs, the Sports Ministry, etc.), while the private archives of national importance are stored in Roubaix. Françoise felt that this was a very good agreement.

She explained that Gersende had done some research on company sport (company committee) and, based on this, had published a brochure entitled “Archives of the sports movement stored at the National Archives– Roubaix: List of collections available as at 1 February 2008”.

Fina announced that she had had contacts with the IASI, which had not yet led to anything.

Kenth suggested sending our activity report for incorporation into their report. The special edition of COMMA on sports archives was still on stand-by.

Sabine presented the IOC archives and announced officially that she was back in the SPO section.

Kenth reported that he would be attending the ISHPES Congress in Copenhagen in July 2008, noting that historians were very interested in sports archives. He also referred to his attendance at Citra, in Quebec in October 2007 (the detailed report had been sent to the members).

Presentation of the SPO brochure by Sabine

Friday 22 morning

Present: Kenth Sjöblom, Gersende Piernas, Françoise Bosman, Fina Sola I Gasset, Sabine Christe, Mbaye Thiam (who arrived on Thursday evening)

Discussion of the brochure

Proposed changes to the text

Proposal to include other photographs on the first page so that the image is less “Olympic and competitive”. To do this, Gersende and Françoise proposed scanning photos from their archive collections and offering them to the graphic designer.

Gersende suggested creating an “ICA-SPO” logo.

Sabine said she would ask the graphic designer if she was interested and available to do it before June.

Françoise proposed sharing the costs of this work.

Kenth would ask Perrine if we can use the ICA logo for graphic design purposes.

It was proposed to print 3,000 copies of the brochure in French, English, Spanish and Arabic.

Abdulla El Reyes would print the brochures and cover the corresponding costs.

Friday afternoon

Present: Kenth Sjöblom, Gersende Piernas, Françoise Bosman, Fina Sola I Gasset, Sabine Christe, Mbaye Thiam

Discussion of the SPO's request for recognition as a permanent section of the ICA

Kenth presented the issues at stake for the section at the Kuala Lumpur (KL) meeting.

1. The official status request for the SPO would be presented at the GA in Kuala Lumpur. It has officially been included on the agenda by Perrine Canavaggio, who regards it as an excellent idea.

This was approved by the Board.

2. Proposed rules: to be sent to Perrine for approval by the GA in Kuala Lumpur.

Rules approved by the Board.

3. Kenth encouraged the section members to attend the meeting in Kuala Lumpur. After a round table discussion, it seemed that he would be the only person going.

Election of the new Board

Kenth asked the members present if they were still interested in this function.

Those present replied in the affirmative.

The question arose for the two people who were absent: Alexandros Krauss and Isabella Orefice.

Two people had left the Board: Klara Lutti and Nora Santarelli.

This meant that three or four new Board members were needed.

Françoise recalled the importance of respecting a basic balance: Greece, France and the IOC. The non-European representation should also be extended, as the USA, South Africa, Asia and particularly China were not present. This was a risk which could prevent the SPO from becoming a permanent section of the ICA.

Mbaye agreed to try to contact various people in Canada, Tunisia and South Africa.

Kenth stressed the need to act quickly, as the members had to be elected in order to be present in KL, i.e. by the end of May for the election in June.

Françoise stressed the importance of the new members being able to contribute something and genuinely representing an institution capable of supporting projects (logistics, finance, etc.)

Kenth thought that the criteria should be as follows: travel, have a certain power and be part of a network. The Board could meet after the GA in KL to choose a chairman/woman, vice-chairman/woman and secretary. This meeting would also be a way of taking note of the decision by the ICA GA.

Activities in Kuala Lumpur

Discussion based on the document sent by Kenth

1. Kenth had been told that the KL Organising Committee would help in contacting local organisations to set up an exhibition on sport.
2. Kenth proposed a round table discussion of the issues affecting sports archives. It would be necessary to propose speakers, but only Kenth was certain to be attending. Fina proposed inviting other sections to join this round table (architecture, law, etc.) and to discuss the links to be established between us.
3. A stand would be set up and the brochure distributed. Fina proposed including the brochure in the kit which the ICA gave to the participants. There were also plans to show a film. Sabine would find out if an Olympic film would be available.

This point was approved.

Special edition of Comma

Kenth presented a proposed table of contents. Thiam would ask for contributions from colleagues in South Africa, and Fina would canvass in South America.

Turin

Françoise will ask Isabella for news about the publication of the proceedings from the May 2007 symposium in Turin.

Budget

The section had 500 Euros available from administrative and project money, reserved for the sections by ICA.

Other business

Kenth announced that the section on international organisations was working on a project to archive websites, and wondered if there could be a link between our two sections.

Quest for sponsors

Françoise and Isabella were responsible for finding sponsors for the SPO.

Thiam had had contacts with the IAAF. In principle, they were willing to support the section.

The IOC would be prepared to subsidise specific projects.

It was decided that everyone would look in his or her own area.

Saturday morning

Present: Kenth Sjöblom, Gersende Piernas, Françoise Bosman, Fina Sola I Gasset, Sabine Christe, Mbaye Thiam

Proposal by Mbaye to hold a Congress in Dakar in 2009 on "Managing archives and Sports Management in Africa: the case of Senegal".

The seminar would be organised under the authority of the SPO.

Practical details:

- Scientific Committee composed of SPO members and external partners
- Organising Committee

Comments:

Important to have a Congress on the archives in Africa

Possibility for the SPO to expand its contacts in Africa

Idea of distributing information throughout French-speaking West Africa

Congress languages: French/English

No budget so far

All the Board members were interested in this project.

Kenth asked what role the Scientific Committee would play.

Mbaye replied that it would have to propose topics, chair the discussions and validate the texts.

Kenth proposed that the Board act as the Scientific Committee. Approved.

The meeting ended at 11.30 a.m.

SPO PICTURES

