

## Minutes of the ECU Ordinary General Assembly 2018

Helsinki, Finland – Radisson Blu Royal Hotel  
Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 14.00-16.30 hours

### ECU Board, present:

President - Aljaž Britvič  
Vice President – Ursula Hann  
Secretary General - Tone Sparby  
North Europe - Mikael Sohn Ottesen  
East Europe - Andrey Kokoulin  
South Europe - Slavica Donkov

*Absent: Jan Becker (Central Europe), Derek Kent (West Europe).*

**ECU administrative assistant:** Špela Planinc

**Minute Taker:** Thea Halgard

## 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Opening of the ECU Ordinary General Assembly 2018 by ECU President Aljaž Britvič.

The president welcomed everyone to the General Assembly, thanked the host nation Finland and presented the board members in attendance. The ECU has also hired an administrative assistant, as discussed during the general assembly 2017, Špela Planinc was introduced.

## 2. ROLL CALL

ECU Members:

No.	Country	Federation	Present
1.	Armenia	All Armenian Union of Cheer Sport and Cheerleading	
2.	Austria	Austrian Cheerleading and Cheerdance Federation	X
3.	Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan Cheerleading Federation	
4.	Belarus	Belorussian Federation of Cheerleading	
5.	Belgium	Belgian Cheerleading Federation	X
6.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Cheer Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina	
7.	Croatia	Croatian Cheerleading Federation	X
8.	Czech Republic	Czech Cheer Association	X

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9.	Denmark	Danish American Football Federation	X
10.	England	British Cheerleading Association	X
11.	Finland	Finnish Cheerleading Federation	X
12.	France	French Federation of American Football	X
13.	Georgia	Georgian National Cheerleading Federation	
14.	Germany	Cheerleading and Cheerdance Federation Germany	X
15.	Greece	Hellenic Cheerleading Union	X
16.	Hungary	Hungarian Cheer Federation	X
17.	Ireland	Irish Cheer Sport Association	X
18.	Italy – FISAC	Italian Federation of Acrobatic and Choreographic Sports	X*
19.	Netherlands	Dutch Cheerleading Association	X
20.	Norway	Norwegian Federation of American Sports	X
21.	Poland – PDF	Polish Cheerleading Sport Association	X
22.	Romania	Romanian Majorettes Association	
23.	Russia – RCU	Russian Cheer Union	X
24.	Serbia	Serbian Cheerleading and Cheerdance Federation	
25.	Slovenia	Slovenian Cheerleading Association	X
26.	Spain	Spain Cheer and Dance	
27.	Sweden	Swedish Cheerleading Federation	X
28.	Switzerland	Cheerleading and Cheerdance Association Switzerland	X
29.	Ukraine	All-Ukrainian Cheerleading Federation	X
30.	Wales	CheerSport Wales	

Associate Members without voting rights:

31.	Italy – FICEC	Cheerleading and Cheerdance Italian Federation	X*
32.	Poland – PCA	Polish Cheerleading Association	X
33.	Russia – RCF	Russian Cheerleading Federation	X

\* Italy – FICEC was an associate member, but was admitted as a full member during agenda item 10.

\* Italy – FISAC will continue as an associate member.

Members not in good standing (not counting for the quorum):

34.	Israel	CDA Israel	
35.	Moldova	Federation of Modern Dances of Moldova	
36.	Scotland	Scotchcheer	

These Members were expelled during the course of the General Assembly, see agenda item 9.

New Members admitted during the course of the General Assembly:

37.	Bulgaria	Bulgarian Cheer Union	X**
38.	Estonia	Estonian Cheerleading Union	X**

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39.	Latvia	Latvian Federation for sport of cheerleading	X**
40.	Malta	Cheerleading Malta	**

\*\* These new members were admitted during agenda item 11, present from agenda item 12 and onwards.

All representatives signed the attendance list upon arrival.  
With 30 full members in good standing at the beginning of the General Assembly, the required number of participating countries to reach the quorum was reached at 15.

At the start of the meeting there were 24 countries present, of which 21 had voting rights. 3 applicant countries were admitted to the meeting after item 11 when they were approved as full members, thereby making 24 voting representatives, 27 countries present in all.

## 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

*The Agenda was unanimously approved.*

## 4. RULES OF PROCEDURE

The rules of procedure were sent out beforehand and can be read in the agenda.

*The Rules of the Procedure were unanimously approved.*

## 5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GA

Minutes of the ECU Ordinary General Assembly 2017 sent to all members on 9 November 2017. No written notification with the correction of or alternation to the minutes was sent by any ECU member.

*The Minutes of the ECU Ordinary General Assembly 2017 were unanimously approved.*

## 6. YEARLY REPORTS

### A. Yearly Reports

President Aljaž Britvič presented the yearly reports (all of which were sent to the delegates beforehand), giving an overview of the current state of cheerleading in Europe.

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The federation is still experiencing growth both in membership countries and athletes, as well as in competitions. The president then presented the current standing of the membership tier model encouraging member federations to report growth in members.

He then proceeded to talk about the ECU development fund. There were no applications in 2017, but so far in 2018 the fund has already co-financed two events. All member federations are encouraged to apply for funds for projects to develop cheerleading.

The new ECU intranet is available through the website. On the intranet information about each of the member federation is available, as well as contact information to judges in Europe and the competition calendar.

## B. Judges Committee Report

The chairperson of the judges committee Marko Ebert briefly introduced the new method of illustrating scores which will give the teams a better understanding of how they scored in comparison with other teams in the same category. For more information the chairperson referred to the written report for a more comprehensive review of the past year.

## C. Competition Rules Committee Report

The chairperson of the Rules Committee Ursula Hann gave a concise introduction to the key elements of the competition rules committee's work this past year. Revisions to the competition rules have been made in accordance with the ICU rules, a brief document called "Safety rules" has been released as a shorter version of the competition rules and 2 rules conferences have been held. The chairperson thanked the ICU experts for their cooperation and help.

## D. Coaches and Athletes Committee Report

This committee was established in 2017 and has now released a questionnaire to collect information about the various member federations to better move forward with their work. Chairperson Rob Tonnaer encouraged all members to reply to the questionnaire.

## E. European Cheer League Steering Committee Report

The chairperson Marko Sabol described the challenges regarding promotion of the various ECL events with the new GDPR privacy guidelines and encouraged all member federations to apply for the inclusion of their competitions in the ECL calendar.

## 7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 1) The ECU treasurer Ursula Hann presented the Financial Reports and highlighted the fact that the financial result of 2017 would have been close to a break-even, which is the goal of all budgets in the federation, if all members had paid their membership fees.
- 2) The audit report concluded that all records of the ECU regarding 2017 have been found to be in order.

*Item 7.1) and 7.2) were unanimously approved.*

### 3) ECU Budget 2018/2019

The budget for 2018/2019 has remained unaltered since the last general assembly except for the office costs.

*The budget for 2018/2019 was unanimously approved.*

## 8. MODIFICATION OF STATUTES

Nothing to report.

## 9. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION OF A MEMBER

The ECU board proposed to expel the following members based on inactivity and unpaid membership fees for several years:

Country	Federation Name (English)
Israel	CDA Israel
Moldova	Federation of Modern Dances of Moldova
Scotland	Scotchcheer

*The ECU General Assembly unanimously agreed to expel CDA Israel, Federation of Modern Dances of Moldova and Scotchcheer.*

## 10. DECISIONS ON CHANGES IN MEMBER STATUS

FICEC (Italy) was earlier this year recognised by the ICU as a full member. In accordance with the ECU Statutes, the ECU board proposed to change the membership status of the Italian member federation FICEC to full member thereby relegating the incumbent Italian member federation FISAC to an associate member.

*Motion passed. Votes: 20 for, 1 against.*

## 11. NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The ECU board suggested that the following federations are accepted as full members:

- Latvia (already a provisional member) – Latvian Federation for sport of cheerleading
- Bulgaria (already a provisional member) – Bulgarian Cheer Union
- Estonia – Estonian Cheerleading Union
- Malta – Cheerleading Malta

*ECU General Assembly unanimously admitted the Latvian Federation for sport of cheerleading, the Bulgarian Cheer Union, the Estonian Cheerleading Union and Cheerleading Malta as member federations.*

On the matter of new membership applications, President Britvič also informed the general assembly that a membership application from an organisation formed on the UK territory (Sportcheer UK) has been pending. For the moment, the membership has not been put up to a vote since the application has not yet been completed with all required documentation.

## 12. PROPOSALS

### A. UNIFIED RANKINGS FOR SENIOR CHEERLEADING (PREMIER AND ELITE)

President Aljaž Britvič presented this proposal, highlighting that this is a step further in the development of our sport. The goal is to have a European championship with only the top divisions, as in most other sports. The Elite division is meant to be a stepping stone for the new members of the ECU and will continue to be so, but several teams in the category are accomplished enough to advance to a higher level. A unified ranking system will highlight the difference in skill level and execution that distinguish the teams. Hopefully this will inspire the Elite teams to advance to the Premier level when they are ready.

*Motion passed. Votes: 18 for, 3 against, 3 abstained.*

### B. EUROPEAN CHEERLEADING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019 AND ONWARD

Secretary General Tone Sparby introduced this item briefly talking about the current state of our championships and the future goals for the ECU Championship. The ECU board's proposal:

#### 2019

- Participation: 2 teams per country per category
- Days: 3 days, Friday-Sunday
  - Friday and Saturday: Competition for Level 4 juniors and Level 5 seniors, paracheer and special abilities. Semi-finals for Level 5 junior, Level 6 senior and performance cheer teams
  - Sunday: Finals with top 5 teams per category (L5 jr, L6 sr, pom, hip hop and jazz)
  - Doubles: A separate competition Friday morning, in St Petersburg.
    - One team per country/category, 2 floors, double judges panel. Additional fee: 100 €/team

#### 2020 - onwards

- Participation: 2 teams per country per category
- Days: 3 days, Friday-Sunday
  - Friday and Saturday: Competition for Level 4 juniors and Level 5 seniors, paracheer and special abilities. Semi-finals for Level 5 junior, Level 6 senior and performance cheer teams
  - Sunday: Finals with top 5 teams per category (L5 junior, L6 senior, pom, hip hop and jazz)
  - Doubles: Only finals on Friday with top 5 teams in each category qualified through ECL 2019.

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- Maximum one team per country.

*Motion passed. Votes: 23 for, 1 against.*

## C. CREATION OF CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE

The president of the Norwegian member federation presented this proposal on behalf of the Nordic countries. The purpose of this committee will be to help the ECU board navigate the challenges regarding the ECU Championships and to help create a strategy for the future championships.

*The proposal was unanimously approved.*

## D. ADAPTING JUNIOR AGE GROUPS TO ICU REGULATIONS

The German representative Sabine Lorenz presented this proposal. During the discussion following the presentation it became clear that the reason behind this proposal was a discrepancy between the wording of the rules regarding age in the ICU and the ECU competition rulebook.

The original proposal was retracted and the general assembly chose to vote on the following proposal instead:

**The ECU board will consider the rules regarding age in the competition rulebooks and work with the ICU to provide a clarification.**

*The revised proposal was unanimously approved.*

# 13. ELECTIONS

## ECU BOARD

No.	Position	Name	Country
1	President	Aljaž Britvič	Slovenia
2	Vice-President	Ursula Hann	Austria
3	Secretary General	Tone Sparby	Norway
4	North Europe	Mikael Sohn Ottesen	Denmark
5	West Europe	Julie Baillieu	Belgium
6	Central Europe	Martina Marešová	Czech Republic
7	East Europe	Andrey Kokoulin	Russia (RCU)
8	South Europe	Slavica Donkov	Croatia

*The board was elected by acclamation.*

## ECU AUDITORS

**The board proposed the following auditors:**

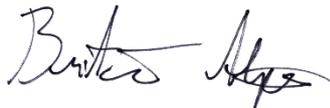
Claudia Polz, Austria  
Romy Möbius-Kramer, Germany

*The proposed auditors were unanimously approved.*

## 14. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The ECU Ordinary General Assembly 2019 will be held on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, in St.Petersburg, Russia.

President Aljaž Britvič thanked all delegates present for coming and encouraged everyone to stay for the group photo.



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Aljaž Britvič, ECU President



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Thea Halgard, Minute taker