



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Friday 11 October 2013 in Valletta, Malta

Present: See Annex 1.

Minutes: Richard Dowling (Secretary)

Apologies for absence: See Annex 1.

(1) Opening Remarks

The President opened the meeting by welcoming delegates, particularly the new representatives from Austria and Norway.

Mrs Marion Scerri, Director of Administration, Maltese Customs, welcomed delegates to the meeting. She said that her directorate gave its complete support to Customs Sports and was keen to support ECSA activities. She thanked those who had made the 2012 football tournament possible. Mrs Scerri said that ECSA helped to forge new friendships and belonging in the wider Customs community and that work and play do indeed go together - all work and no play makes Customs officers dull boys and girls.

On behalf of the Maltese Customs Sports Board, Eamon Bugeja thanked the administration directorate and Mrs Scerri for their support.

(2) Approval of the Agenda

The meeting approved the agenda.

(3) Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Annual General Meeting 2012

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 2012 were corrected at the first paragraph of part 8 to include mention of a proposed United Kingdom - Malta bilateral snooker tournament and in the fourth paragraph of part 10 to record that the French had taken one extra player to the football tournament. The minutes were then agreed as a true and fair record.

Executive Committee Meeting 18 January 2013

The minutes of this meeting were noted.

Executive Committee Meeting 24 May 2013

The minutes of this meeting were noted.

(4) Matters Arising

See Annex 2.

Action Points 25/13 & 26/13

In discussion, it was agreed that any polo shirts purchased should be durable and a good fit for women as well as men. It was agreed that polo shirts were promotional items for the Association. The possibility of providing the logo to Member States was discussed but it would need to be provided in appropriate, user-friendly, formats.

Action Point 28/13

Andreas Krueckeberg said that he had spoken with the sniffer dog people in Germany and that it might be possible to have the event there (there is a good site in Hamburg) or perhaps as a joint event with the Netherlands. It was noted that the entry fee was €150 per person in Austria.

Action Point 01/14: AK to explore the possibility of a solo German or a joint German-Dutch sniffer dog competition.

Action Point 32/13

It was agreed not to pursue the idea of an ECSA Twitter account.

Andreas Krueckeberg asked about messages relating to the ECSA Facebook account coming to him in various languages. He was advised to check his settings.

Action Point 36/13

Daniel Koener and Katrien De Wachter said that they might be able to help the President with World Customs Organisation contacts.

Action Point 02/14: DK and KDW to supply JH with names of possible contacts in the WCO.

(5) Treasurer's Report & Annual Accounts 2013

The Treasurer issued copies of his report, which showed income and expenditure. He advised that the bank account in Denmark was now up and running. However, there is a charge of €2.68 for every transfer into the account. The meeting agreed that the Association would bear this charge, rather than Member States being invoiced for €152.68 but it also agreed that any other bank charges would remain the responsibility of the Member State.

The meeting agreed the annual accounts.

(6) Website

The Vice-President reminded the meeting of the attack on the website in the spring and said that it still needed to get back to full functionality. Andreas Krueckeberg emphasised the need to move to full functionality. The Vice-President consulted the webmaster by telephone and relayed his information that there would be full functionality for the new website in no more than one month's time. It was agreed to set a deadline of 29 November 2013 for this. Rita De Wolf asked for E-mail notification when the new website was fully functional, this was agreed.

Action Point 03/14: LL to E-mail all Member States when the new website is fully functional.

The meeting thanked the webmaster for all his work on the new website.

Palle Lundborg reminded the meeting that the website would only be as good as the information provided for it. Member States were asked to copy all event invitations to the webmaster.

The new website can be accessed at www.ecsa-sports/jupgrade.

Theo de Goeijen proposed using the old logo (the non-flapping flag) for Association flags; this was agreed. He asked to be sent the old logo. The meeting agreed to send the new logo to Member States and that delegates should let the Executive Committee know when it had been used.

Action Point 04/14: JH to send the new logo to all Member States and the old logo to TdG.

(7) Reports from Member States

The meeting discussed the requirement that event invitations be issued no fewer than six months before the event in question. It noted that invitations could be sent out with further details to follow. The meeting agreed that the Association must never be in a situation where an invitation was issued but then the event did not take place.

Austria

Roman Hotz commented briefly on Austria's written report.

France

Jacky Golanski commented briefly on his written report.

Belgium

Katrien De Wachter and Rita De Wolf advised that the Brussels 20K in 2014 would not be on the last Sunday of May but, due to elections, would instead be on 18 May 2014. It would then revert to normal in future years.

Luxembourg

Daniel Koener commented briefly on his written report.

Denmark

Svend-Mandel Hansen commented briefly on his written report.

Finland

Lasse Lehtokangas commented briefly on the tenpin bowling tournament that Finland hosted earlier this year.

Czech Republic

Jan Hlinka commented briefly on his written report.

Hungary

Barnabás Sik commented briefly on his written report.

Norway

John Arne Petterson noted that his side had only played two matches at the recent volleyball tournament in Turkey and said that the minimum number should be five. The Vice-President said that events like volleyball should be over the weekend.

Sweden

Palle Lundborg noted that Sweden had taken part in the sniffer dog competition, had had a bilateral event with Norway and had entered a runner in the Czech running event.

Netherlands

Theo de Goeijen advised the following concerning the Nijmegen Marches:

- Teams will in future consist of four people;
- At least one team member should speak English;
- Participants should be well-trained and should bring walking boots;
- All team members should have invitations copied to them so that can apprise themselves of all necessary requirements;
- Team memebtrs will have bibs with numbers and the ECSA and Dutch Customs logos.

Theo de Goeijen also noted that the promotional video should be copied onto DVD.

Germany

Andreas Krueckeberg advised that the federal Finance Ministry would be taking over Germany's membership of the Association. He also said that Germany might be able to host the shooting in 2014 or 2015.

Malta

Eamon Bugeja reminded delegates about Malta's Amazing Race next year, urging early replies to invitations. In reply to a question, he said that composite teams would be possible for the event. He also advised of an upcoming bilateral snooker event between Malta and the United Kingdom.

Written reports were also received from Slovakia and Poland.

(8) Customs Fit Check Proposal

Roman Hotz outlined the Austrian proposal for this event, which would be based on the fitness criteria that Customs officers have to meet as part of their jobs. He said that the event would serve to transfer the experience of Member States to other Member States. Team leaders could be the people in charge of fitness in Member State administrations, to maximise the chance of transferring experience. Each team would have three members.

After a short discussion, the proposal was agreed in principle, further details to be provided for review by the Executive Committee and decision at its next meeting.

(9) Calendar

2014

The meeting updated the calendar for 2014. For details, see Annex 5.

Svend-Mandel Hansen said that Denmark would host the golf in 2014. The venue would be Fredericia in Jutland, players would arrive and practice on 01 September, play on 02 and 03 September and depart on 04 September and the cost would be between €300 and €350 per person.

Palle Lundborg said that Sweden could not do such a labour-intensive event as shooting. Roman Hotz said that Austria might be able to consider it, although he was not hopeful. Daniel Koener said that Luxembourg would consider it.

Action Point 05/14: DK to check whether Luxembourg could host the shooting in 2014 and let JH know by 15/11/2013.

Lasse Lehtokangas said that it was not possible for Finland to host a sailing tournament due to difficulties in obtaining boats. PL said that an event organised off Croatia by the Slovenian police would be inaugurated next year.

The meeting agreed that the President should check with Turkey whether it could host the football tournament in 2014, asking them to let him know definitely by the end of November. In the meantime, Eamon Bugeja will provisionally book facilities in Malta.

Action Point 06/14: JH to write to Turkey asking it to confirm by the end of November whether it can host the football tournament in 2014.

Action Point 07/14: EB to provisionally book football facilities in Malta.

Theo de Goeijen said that he would ask if the Netherlands could host the AGM, in case Turkey could not.

Barnabás Sik outlined various Hungarian plans for possible events in 2014, involving basketball, dragon boat racing and canoeing. The basketball would need a minimum of four teams to be viable and would cost approximately €200 per person (including all meals, accommodation, prizes etc). The dragon boat racing would involve teams of a minimum of fourteen people (ideally eighteen to twenty) and the canoeing would be down the Danube, from Vienna to Budapest via Bratislava, a distance of some 200km over five days, participants staying in camping-style accommodation. The meeting agreed the basketball and canoeing. As for the dragon boat racing, it asked that Member States would be asked to express interest.

Action Point 08/14: BS to E-mail round Member States to establish the level of interest in dragon boat racing.

2015

The meeting updated the calendar for 2015. See Annex 6 for details.

Action Point 09/14: RD to explore the possibility of the United Kingdom hosting the tenpin bowling tournament.

Action Point 10/14: BS to explore the possibility of Hungary hosting the volleyball tournament.

(10) Elections

Richard Dowling of the United Kingdom was proposed for re-election as Secretary by Lasse Lehtokangas, Andreas Krueckeberg seconding. The motion was passed unanimously.

Marco Paladino of Italy was proposed for re-election as an Ordinary Member of the Executive Committee by Richard Dowling, Lasse Lehtokangas seconding. The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting noted that Daniel Koener had been co-opted onto the Executive Committee for one year, to assist with financial matters.

(11) Football Rules

The proposed changes to the rules were agreed.

Eamon Bugeja then argued for an increase in squad sizes from ten to fourteen players, which he said would further increase networking and teamworking opportunities. Palle Lundborg argued that such a change would not be fair on countries only able to enter smaller squads. Lasse Lehtokangas pointed out that countries hosting the football if it had larger squads would face a greater organisational burden, so much so that some countries might then not be able to host the event. Eamon also said that an argument could be made for increasing squad sizes to eleven, the extra player being a second goalkeeper. The question of how many teams a Member State could enter into the tournament was also discussed.

The meeting agreed to remit the issue of squad sizes and numbers of teams to the Executive Committee for consideration.

(12) Any Other Business

Andreas Krueckeberg suggested having ECSA lanyards.

Action Point 11/14: AK to get a quote for ECSA lanyards.

Palle Lundborg urged that the possibility of getting new countries to join be explored. He also urged the value of adding new events, such as Czech cross-country skiing.

The President informed the meeting that he had visited Slovenia and had met with its Customs Director-General. He said that at the time of the meeting things had looked quite promising for continued Slovenian participation in the Association but that just before the AGM he had received an E-mail from Slovenian Customs saying that due to financial pressures associated with the upcoming merger with the tax administration, it could no longer continue with its membership. The meeting noted this with regret.

The Vice-President said that some aspects of the volleyball rules needed tightening up.

Action Point 12/14: LL to send a copy of the volleyball rules round the EC together with a note of what he thinks needs changing.

Daniel Koener said that he would be seeing Mick O'Hanlon from Ireland next week and would ask about Ireland hosting an Executive Committee meeting or perhaps the AGM.

Action Point 13/14: RD to E-mail EC members with travel information for Bournemouth.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in Bournemouth, United Kingdom on Friday 24 January 2014.

The date and venue of the next Annual General Meeting will be advised in due course.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.45pm.

**RICHARD DOWLING
SECRETARY
15 OCTOBER 2013**

Annex 1

Persons present and apologies received

Country	Name	Role	Present/Apologies
Austria	Roman Hotz		Present
Belgium	Katrien De Wachter		Present
	Rita De Wolf		Present
Czech Republic	Jan Hlinka	President	Present
Cyprus	Stala Hartsioti		Absent
Denmark	Svend-Mandel Hansen	Treasurer	Present
Finland	Lasse Lehtokangas	Vice-President	Present
France	Jacky Golanski		Present
Germany	Andreas Krueckeberg		Present
Hungary	Barnabás Sik		Present
Ireland	Mick O'Hanlon		Apologies
Italy	Marco Paladino	EC member	Apologies
Latvia	Jana Kravale		Apologies
Lithuania	Alonas Ritvas		Apologies
Luxembourg	Daniel Koener		Present
Malta	Eamon Bugeja	EC member	Present
Netherlands	Theo de Goeijen		Present
Norway	John Arne petterson		Present
Poland	Anetta Janda		Apologies
Slovakia	Nora Kačániová		Apologies
Slovenia	Brane Gregorič		Apologies
Sweden	Palle Lundborg		Present
Turkey	Yücel Karadiş		Absent
United Kingdom	Richard Dowling	Secretary	Present
	Andrea Scott-Lewis		Apologies
TAXUD	Isobel Maltby		Absent

Annex 2

Update on Action Points taken forward from meeting of 24 May 2013

AP	BY	ACTION POINT
		From Annual General Meeting of 01 October 2010
09/11	ALL	Representatives having information about how ECSA contacts have benefitted member state administrations to send this to TdG.
		<i>Ongoing.</i>
		From Executive Committee meeting of 18 January 2013
12/13	LL	LL to put general information about the ECSA plus a few photographs of events into a PDF leaflet on the website.
		<i>Ongoing.</i>
		From Executive Committee meeting of 24 May 2013
21/13	EB	EB to supply Janne Kallio with appropriate details of how he had liaised with AK to ensure the seizure of two stolen cars in Malta, for publication on the website.
		<i>Discharged, no further information could be provided due to confidentiality issues.</i>
22/13	JH/ RD	JH and RD to refresh the list of ECSA delegates in good time before the AGM.
		<i>Discharged, E-mail sent to all representatives on 28/05/2013.</i>
23/13	JH	JH to explore with TAXUD how it might be able to help in maintaining, expanding and refreshing contacts.
		<i>Ongoing, JH wrote to Isobel Maltby, she is exploring options and possibilities.</i>
24/13	JH	JH to explore with Ireland the possibility of it hosting an EC meeting.
		<i>Discharged, Ireland hoping to host an EC meeting in 2015.</i>
25/13	JH	JH to contact Palle Lundborg of Sweden to ask him to get a quote for more polo shirts.
		<i>Discharged, €25.</i>
26/13	EB	EB to get quotes for more polo shirts.
		<i>Discharged, €11, €18, €22 without printing, which would be €13.</i>
27/13	JH	JH to see about fonts and proportions/colours of the logo.
		<i>Ongoing.</i>
28/13	TdG	TdG to informally explore whether the Netherlands could host the sniffer dog competition, perhaps in 2015.
		<i>Ongoing, old DG said it would not be possible, TdG meeting new DG in December and will ask then.</i>

29/13	SM H	SMH to chase up outstanding 2013 subscriptions.
		<i>Discharged, only one subscription outstanding, Slovenia.</i>
30/13	RD	RD to advise RCSL Northern Ireland of the EC's agreement to a grant of €500 towards a reception for Customs officers attending the World Police and Fire Games in Belfast.
		<i>Discharged 28/05/2013.</i>
31/13	MP	MP to set up an ECSA E-mail address in order to facilitate the subsequent establishment of an Association YouTube account.
		<i>Ongoing, JH will chase up MP.</i>
32/13	EB	EB to set up a personal Twitter account in order to scope out the issues involved and any difficulties prior to consideration being given to opening an ECSA Twitter account.
		<i>Discharged, EB said that he had had some privacy issues with his Twitter account and did not recommend it for ECSA.</i>
33/13	JH	JH to write to all Member States seeking volunteers to host the swimming tournament in 2014.
		<i>Discharged, see Calendar 2014.</i>
34/13	RD	RD to revise the Rules to include a requirement that event invitations be issued at least six months prior to events.
		<i>Discharged.</i>
35/13	MP	MP to provide JH with details about his contact in the World Customs Organisation.
		<i>Discharged, see 36/13.</i>
36/13	JH	JH to write to the World Customs Organisation giving information about the Association.
		<i>Ongoing, JH is seeking the correct person to send the information to.</i>

Annex 3

Action Points Taken Forward from AGM 2013

AP	BY	ACTION POINT
		From Annual General Meeting of 01 October 2010
09/11	ALL	Representatives having information about how ECSA contacts have benefitted member state administrations to send this to TdG.
		From Executive Committee meeting of 18 January 2013
12/13	LL	LL to put general information about the ECSA plus a few photographs of events into a PDF leaflet on the website.
		From Executive Committee meeting of 24 May 2013
23/13	JH	JH to explore with TAXUD how it might be able to help in maintaining, expanding and refreshing contacts.
27/13	JH	JH to see about fonts and proportions/colours of the logo.
28/13	TdG	TdG to informally explore whether the Netherlands could host the sniffer dog competition, perhaps in 2015.
31/13	MP	MP to set up an ECSA E-mail address in order to facilitate the subsequent establishment of an Association YouTube account.
36/13	JH	JH to write to the World Customs Organisation giving information about the Association.
01/14	AK	AK to explore the possibility of a solo German or a joint German-Dutch sniffer dog competition.
02/14	AK/ KD W	DK and KDW to supply JH with names of possible contacts in the WCO.
03/14	LL	LL to E-mail all Member States when the new website is fully functional.
04/14	JH	JH to send the new logo to all Member States and the old logo to TdG.
05/14	DK	DK to check whether Luxembourg could host the shooting in 2014 and let JH know by 15/11/2013.
06/14	JH	JH to write to Turkey asking it to confirm by the end of November whether it can host the football tournament in 2014.
07/14	EB	EB to provisionally book football facilities in Malta.
08/14	BS	BS to E-mail round Member States to establish the level of interest in dragon boat racing.
09/14	RD	RD to explore the possibility of the United Kingdom hosting the tenpin bowling tournament.
10/14	BS	BS to explore the possibility of Hungary hosting the volleyball tournament.

11/14	AK	AK to get a quote for ECSA lanyards.
12/14	LL	LL to send a copy of the volleyball rules round the EC together with a note of what he thinks needs changing.
13/14	RD	RD to E-mail EC members with travel information for Bournemouth.

Annex 4

ECSA Balance Sheet

Accounting Period: October 2012 - September 2013

Expenses (Euro)			
<i>Name</i>	<i>Narrative</i>	€	€
Media Services	Website	68.97	
Bank cost		<u>14.22</u>	
Total expenses accounting period*			(83.19)
Income (Euro)			
Subscriptions (20 countries)**		3,000.00	
Solde	Turkey 2011	12.00	
Interest		<u>94.52</u>	
			<u>3,106.52</u>
Balance accounting period			3,023.33
Balance brought forward AGM 2012			<u>10,481.18</u>
Balance AGM 2013			13,504.51

* No invoice or request has yet been received from RCSL Northern Ireland for payment of the grant of €500 towards a reception for Customs officers attending the World Police & Fire Games in Belfast that was agreed by the EC at its meeting of 24 May 2013.

** ECSA has 23 member countries. Malta paid the subscription for 2013 in advance, August 2012. Subscriptions for 2013 are outstanding from two member countries, Lithuania and Slovenia.

01/10/2013

10/10/2013

10/10/2013

Svend Mandel
Treasurer, ECSA

Barnabas Sik
Auditor

Palle Lundborg
Auditor

Annex 5

Events & Meetings in 2014

Activity	Date	Member State	Comments
EC meeting	24/01/2014	United Kingdom	Bournemouth
Skiing	February or March	Italy	
Amazing Race	24/04 - 26/04/2014	Malta	
Table Tennis	Mid-May	Poland	
Running	18/05/2014	Belgium	Brussels
<i>EC meeting</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Sweden or Germany</i>	
<i>Canoeing</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Hungary</i>	
<i>Fitness Check</i>	<i>June/July</i>	<i>Austria</i>	<i>Vienna</i>
Walking	15/07 - 18/07/2014	Netherlands	Nijmegen
Golf	01/09 - 04/09/2014	Denmark	Fredericia
Running	05/09 - 07/09/2014	Czech Republic	10K & 1 mile
Cycling	12/09 - 13/09/2014	United Kingdom	Telford
<i>Football</i>	<i>September</i>	<i>Turkey or Malta</i>	
AGM	Early October	<i>Turkey?</i> <i>Netherlands?</i>	
Marathon	Early October	Hungary	Budapest
Running	October	Germany	Cologne
Running	October	France	La Sauldre
Basketball	November	Hungary	

Note

Activities in *italics* are not yet confirmed.

* The Amazing Race is an event something like a triathlon in that it involves various different physical activities but it also involves certain knowledge-based (work and otherwise) activities.

Note

Activities in *italics* are not yet confirmed.

Annex 6

Events & Meetings in 2015

Activity	Date	Member State	Comments
EC meeting	January	<i>Austria</i> or <i>Germany</i>	
<i>Skiing</i>	<i>February or March</i>	<i>Italy</i>	
<i>Table Tennis</i>	<i>Mid-May</i>	<i>Poland</i>	
Running	31/05/2014	Belgium	Brussels
EC meeting	May/June	<i>Denmark?</i>	
<i>Shooting</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Germany?</i>	
Walking	July	Netherlands	Nijmegen
<i>Running</i>	<i>Early September</i>	<i>Czech Republic</i>	<i>10K & 1 mile</i>
AGM	Late Sept/early Oct		
<i>Marathon</i>	<i>Early October</i>	<i>Kosice</i>	<i>Slovakia</i>
Running	October	Germany	Cologne
Running	October	France	Cisoin

Note

Activities in *italics* are not yet confirmed.

Annex 7

ECSA Football: Rules of competition - 6 A Side Rules (revised 2013)

N.B. Revisions are in **bold red underlined**.

1. The FIFA laws of the game shall apply unless otherwise stated.
2. Pitch dimensions: 50m X 35m inc. goal size of 2m high by 5m long with a goalkeeping area extending 10m from the goal line.
3. Each squad shall consist of up to ten players, only six of whom plus any one substitute may play in any one match. Substitution may take place at any time providing play has stopped with the referee's permission. The number of substitutions made during a match shall not be limited. A player who has been replaced may return to the pitch as a substitute for another player. Any of the other players, or substitutes, may change places with the goalkeeper. The following conditions must be observed:
 - the referee must be informed before the change is made;
 - the change may only be made during a stoppage in play.

Note: There was a suggestion that squad numbers be increased to 14 to include an additional keeper but there was no appetite for this from the other review members. The additional cost of sending bigger squads was a big influence on this view.

4. Teams shall provide a match ball and a set of coloured shirts or be prepared to play in alternative kit as required. **All match shirts must have numbers on the back, numbers will be allocated to an individual player for identification purposes throughout the tournament.**
5. Prior to the commencement of the tournament the organisers shall decide the duration of matches but games shall be two halves of at least ten minutes except for the semi-finals and final which shall be two halves of at least fifteen minutes.
6. After a goal the game shall be restarted from the centre spot.
7. There shall be no offside.

8. All free kicks to be direct and 'throw-in to be taken by foot.

9. Captains shall toss for choice of ends. Each half shall commence with a kick-off.

10. In the group matches, three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a draw. Group winners (and runners-up if time permits) shall go forward to the knockout stages.

In the event of two or more teams being level on points at the conclusion of the group matches, places in the knockout stages shall be decided in the following order:

- the team with the superior goal difference shall go through;
- in the event of identical goal difference, the team scoring more goals shall go through;
- in the event of identical goal difference and goals scored, the team having the superior record in matches between the teams who are level on points shall go through;
- if teams still cannot be separated, a method of random chance selection shall be employed.

Matches drawn at the knockout stage shall be decided by a penalty shoot-out. The six players remaining on the pitch at the end of the match shall be those who will take part in the penalty shoot out. Should the teams still be equal after six penalties have been taken, the shoot out shall continue on a "sudden death" basis.

11. Discipline.

Any player who receives a caution during the competition shall be automatically suspended from playing in the next match that their team are involved in.

~~Any player who receives two cautions during the competition shall be automatically suspended from playing in the next two matches that their team are involved in.~~ two cautions in two separate matches during the competition shall be suspended from the next match that their team is involved in.

Any player sent off during the competition shall be automatically banned from ~~the remainder of the competition.~~ playing in the next two matches that their team is involved in unless it is for violent conduct when a ban for the remainder of the competition will be imposed.

Referees are asked to inform the organisers of any such incidents.

Additionally, the following will apply in the ladies tournament.

- Team organisers shall report to the tournament organiser at least thirty minutes before the start of their first match.
- In order that the tournament proceeds to time, teams **MUST** be at their allotted pitch at the time stated.