The 2019 IFAF Congress
Crowne Plaza Hotel, London. November 2nd 2019
Welcome to Congress

Welcome from President Richard MacLean

I, on behalf of the Executive Board, would like to take the opportunity to welcome to London the representatives of nations from around the world.

Over the past twelve months there have been many achievements of which we can rightly be proud. Italy, Israel and Great Britain have played host to major championships which have allowed athletes to showcase their talents to the world. Grants have been secured to further the growth and development of the game in nations around the world; notably on the continent of Africa where we are seeing the emergence of a number of new federations - all with a desire to support as many people as possible in experiencing our great game.

Our member nations continue to deliver high quality competitions and activity, from Shamrock Bowl to the NZAFF Combine Series. Beyond this and of equal importance, they are increasingly working to support a wider agenda, where sport can be the vehicle to support individual and community wellbeing. We should never underestimate the value and impact sport can have!

In addition, we can also be proud of our achievement in securing a positive assessment of our governance following the independent audit earlier this year. Our ability to demonstrate high standards is vital in ensuring that we deliver for our members and continue to gain the trust, respect and support of key stakeholders from around the world.

At Congress we aim to set out an ambitious agenda for development. Whilst we recognise that challenges remain as a legacy from recent events, we can look forward with confidence to the strengthening of our organisation and the growth and development of our sport around the world.
Congress Agenda

Congress opens at 10.00.

Registration.
Roll call of attendees and declaration of calling of Congress.
Opening Speech from the President of IFAF
Keynote Speech: Anti Doping
Keynote Speech: Athlete Development
1. Appointment of two scrutinisers
2. Appointment of three delegates to whom the Minutes must be submitted for review.
3. Approval of the Minutes from the 2018 Congress.
4. Report of the Executive Board covering the period of the last year.
5. Approval of the Executive Board's report covering the last year.
6. Presentation of the latest financial statement.
7. Approval of the financial statement.
8. Consideration of the Budget and the Strategic Plan for the upcoming financial year proposed by the Executive Board
9. Approval of the Budget and the Plan of Action.
10. Membership of Nations - confirmation of status
11. Consideration of any Motion sent according to the Statutes and proposals by the Executive Board.
12. Any Other Business.
13. Congress 2020 announcement

Motion One
Submitted by Austria.
Continental Activity.
Documents circulated.

Motion Two
Submitted by Israel
Documents circulated.
**Strategic Plan and Budget**

On Friday 1 November, the Executive Board will outline the top line strategic plan designed to guide the Federation and the sport through the coming years.

This will provide an opportunity for delegates to learn more about the Plan and provide feedback.

The Plan is comprised of multiple strands:
- Strong leadership and governance
- A global sport and talent development programme
- World class competitions and events
- Membership engagement
- Sustainable and ethical activity
- Unified communications and enhanced visibility
- High quality education and training

The ability to deliver against the Plan will be subject to budget availability.

A full budget will be produced at Congress and will cover a series of business scenarios for 2020. It will be predicated in the first instance, on core revenue received from IFAF membership activity.

We are fortunate to receive grants and we continue to explore sponsorship and sources of external investment. However, we need to move to a position where core business can be covered by reliable income streams, notably membership fees, competition fees, and allied streams such as ITC fees. A revision to the fee structure needs to be debated.

For many there is rightfully a desire to concentrate on the future and not dwell upon the past. However, resulting from costs associated with the legal action undertaken from 2015 onwards, the loss of funds from the IFAF bank account and the need to meet outstanding obligations left by others IFAF is currently the recipient of multiple loans which require repayment over time - loans from a small number of member nations. Aside from core business, we must prioritise their needs so that they are not disadvantaged for their generosity.

A new ITC system will be ready for 2020. This will see ITCs processed online. The fee paid for the transfer will come directly to IFAF and will be ring-fenced for loan repayment and clean sport activity.