

Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc.



**Europe Association
Office of the Secretary**
Haldenacherstrasse 14
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Switzerland
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Minutes of the Annual Meeting September 10th 2016 Namur, Belgium

Meeting called to Order at 08:30h

The President of the European Association send greetings from Afghanistan via Skype.

Roll Call of Officers and Chapters:

Present Chapter Representatives:

- Austria 2 (substituted by Stefanie "Dotti" Behling, Officer of Germany 11)
- Belgium 1
- Belgium 2
- Belgium 4
- Belgium 5
- Belgium 6
- Belgium 7
- Belgium 8
- England 2
- France 2
- Germany 1
- Germany 2
- Germany 6
- Germany 7
- Germany 10
- Germany 11
- Germany 12
- Ireland 1
- Italy 1
- Netherlands 1
- Switzerland 1
- Switzerland 2
- Switzerland 3
- Switzerland 4
- Wales 1
- MAL-Representative

Total possible votes:	42
Represented votes:	26
Majority: ($\frac{1}{2} + 1$)	14

International Guest: International Treasurer Scott Ryan

Call of Officers:	European President (a.i.):	Pierre Halleux (replace Tom Hoedjes)
	European Vice Pres:	Jan Van Herck
	European Secretary:	Stefan Streif
	European Treasurer:	Tom Van der Kley
	European Road Captain:	Michael Pfoertner
	Region 7 Director:	Pierre Halleux



Presidents Opening remarks:

Moment of Silence for all Red Knights passed away and all fallen Firefighter last year

Rules for Meeting:

- Sergeant at Arms:** Flolo from Germany 2
- Must check in/out with Sergeant at Arms**
- 5 minutes speaking on issue**
- Voting, raising hand (President of Chapters in good standing + MAL Representative) with the green band.**

Election of Officers:

- Election of President and Secretary**
There are no more candidates then Tom “Sparks” Hoedjes for President and Stefan “Sergeant” Streif for Secretary. In this circumstances there are elected unanimously.
- Appointments of Vice President**
Harris Puisais resigned in May per immediate from his function as Vice-President due to health problems and not being able travelling so much. The next possible election will be 2017 in September. The SOG says, it’s possible for the Board to install somebody as acting Vice President for this time. Pierre and the Board Member where looking for candidates and found one in the person of Jan van Herck. Jan is member of the Chapter Belgium 2. Pierre and the Board speaks several time with Jan and he say, that he will do this job. So in the Board-Meeting in June 10th 2016 at Sigmaringen the Board has appointed Jan van Herck for acting Vice-President for the period to the next possible election.

Old Business:

- Delinquent Chapters:**
There are no delinquent Chapter in Region 7
- Report of the treasurer**

Iron Butt Programm:	150 EUR	106 EUR
Grand Tour Programm:	10 EUR	
Voluntary Dues:	738 EUR	
Patches/Pins Sold:	30 EUR	
Bureau Material:		14 EUR
Others:		143,52 EUR
Total:	928 EUR	263,52 EUR
Saldo at the Date of EuCon 2016:	2.116,52 EUR	



□ **Budget 2016/2017**

In the moment the balance of the account of the Association will be € 2116.52
30% of the amount of this money will be reserved for the EU CON
20% will be invested in Merchandising
50% will be reserved for future events and eventualities such as funerals.

□ **Europe Association Voluntary Dues**

The treasurer Tom Van der Kley means, that it's awful that we have 41 Chapters and only 15 of them had paid the voluntary dues. It becomes a short discussion why the dues are voluntary and not obligate. Pierre explain that the voluntary is fixed in the SOG. He also says that the most of this money go back to the Members and Chapters and how more Chapters will pay how more money the organizing Chapter for the Annual Meeting can become (30 % of the amount).

□ **Europe Association Award**

For the European Award Pierre became one suggestion but as recently as in July. So we have no candidate for the award in 2016.

□ **Iron Butt Program**

Twenty Knights has send their fees and data to the European Secretary at the end of 2015. They became eight Awards in Silver and twelve in Bronze.

□ **New Chapters and MAL since September 2015**

New Chapters : 8 (95 members)

AUSTRIA 4 (08/2016) - (8 members)
BELGIUM 8 (10/2015) - (19 members)
CROATIA 1 (04/2016) - (7 members)
FRANCE 4 (1/2016) - (17 members)
GERMANY 4 (08/2016) - (7 members)
GERMANY 12 (11/2015) - (14 members)
GERMANY 13 (12/2015) - (16 members)
GERMANY 14 (09/2016) – (7 members)

New MAL : 18 members - 2 **new countries**

CROATIA :

- NOVOTNI DARKO (6/2016)

ENGLAND :

- NEWISS CHRIS (1/2016)
- HARDRIGHAM STUART (11/2015)
- ALDER GARY (1/2016)



DENMARK : **new country**

- WINTHER JAN (7/2016)

FINLAND : **new country**

- ISAKSSON STEFAN (4/2016)

GERMANY :

- ARMIN HÖFER (4/2016)
- ESSER TORSTEN (10/2015)
- HELLRIEGEL MATTHIAS (3/2016 move to Germany 4 8/2016)
- HOEFER MARKUS (7/2016)
- MILDE PETER (3/2016 move to Germany 4 8/2016)
- ROSCH RONNY (12/2015)
- SEDLAG HENDRIK (4/2016)
- SMITH KEVIN (4/2016)
- STAMPE DIRK (7/2016)
- SUESSMILCH JAN (11/2015)
- WETZEL DENISE (4/2016)

LUXEMBURG :

- PETER STEPHENA (9/2015)
- PAQUET GEORGES (9/2015)

NORWAY :

- LUND STEINAR (7/2016)

Report of European Webmaster

The Webmaster Gery «Dutchy» Jansen like to have more information from the Chapters. He will import every news on the homepage. He also explains the Google-Calendar. Please send him all dates of your Chapter-Events and he will publish them immediately on the Website.

New Business:

- SOG of Europe Association: what I must do to propose a change (section 3:09-B Europe: By-laws committee - Article 8 Amendments):**

Proposal amendment from Regional Director Region 7:

Following the change of designation of an International Board member following a vacancy in San Antonio, last year, I propose to change the European SOG concerning the replacement of a Europe Association Executive Board Member.



- Now, we find this in our Europe Association SOG:
 - SECTION 3:10 EUROPE,

A vacancy in office may be declared by the European Executive Board if a Member of the Board has an in - excused absences for two or more meetings or if a member becomes inattentive to the duties of the office that he/she holds. The Association Executive Board may make a temporary replacement until the election of another Chapter Rep. of the constituent Chapter.

- I propose this change (copy from International Bylaw):
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 - SECTION 3:05 VACANCY

Any vacancy in the Europe Association Executive Board occurring during the year will be filled via nominations to email voting process with the exception of vacancies occurring within 180 days of normal completion of the term.

The Europe Association Executive Board may nominate a qualified candidate for the position.

The process shall be as follows:

1. The Presidents of all Chapters/MALs impacted by the vacancy shall be notified within 15 days of any vacancy occurring within the Europe Association Executive Board.
2. An election to fill the vacancy shall be completed within 90 days of the occurrence if the vacancy inclusive of the 15 days to notify Chapter Presidents/MALs plus 30 days for open nominations, 30 days to establish voting lists and 15 days of open voting.
3. If the vacancy occurs within 90 days of the Europe Association Business Meeting for which the vacant position would normally be elected and there are no candidates nominated as a result of the normal election process, the 90 day election process indicated above shall be initiated at the closing of Europe Association Business Meeting.
4. In the event that a qualified candidate is not nominated following the process stated above the position shall be filled for the remainder of the term by appointment of the Europe Association Executive Board. This appointment may be made at the conclusion of the 30 day period starting on the date of notification of impact Chapter Presidents/MALs.
5. Those appointed to fill vacant positions shall not enjoy the reelection privileges as an Incumbent as outlined in these By-Laws.



The process to change the SOG of the European Association is described in the International By-laws at Article 8:

ARTICLE VIII EUROPE: AMENDMENTS

AMENDING, ADDING OR REMOVING A SOG

These SOG's may be proposed for repeal or amending at any European Annual Meeting of the International Corporation or by the European Executive Board and voted on at the next European Annual Meeting by members of Region 7.

A majority affirmative vote is required for passage of any SOG amendment from those present and eligible to vote, providing adequate notice of the proposed action setting forth the substance thereof has been given to all voting members in writing with the roll call of the meeting.

The Regional Director will be informed of the amendments or additions within 30 days of the changes.

Under this circumstances we have to and we propose the change within this Annual Meeting and next year at the European Annual Meeting we will vote about this.

- **Ordering and Paying Procedure for the European Quartermaster**
Because the International Board has contracts with manufacturers in the States it is impossible to produce some International Patches in Europe. So in the future the Quartermaster of the Chapter has to ordering some Merchandising-Articles on the International Homepage www.redknightsmc.com/redknightregalia.htm. Then he has to pay it via Paypal. If the International Quartermaster tell the European Quartermaster the money is in, the items will be shipping by the European Quartermaster.

- **European insurance for "Authorized Chapter ride outs »**
Into the United States and Canada every Chapter can make an insurance if they organize a Multi-Chapter-Event. This insurance costs about \$150 each event.

In Europe It's impossible to find an insurer where offer an insurance for all over Europe. Therefore, a European Chapter can take an insurance in his own country and send a copy of the contract to the International Treasurer. If it's a Multi-Chapter-Event, the International Board will pay \$150 (maximum) to this Chapter.

- **Report International Annual Meeting 2016 at Wisconsin Dells WI**
This Year was a problem with electronical voting. A lot of Chapters don't take the official Email-Address of the Chapter for voting. This is against the International By-laws and normally this votes are null and void but the International Board has accepted this votes for 2016. The Regional Directors are advised to correct this faults in her regions.

For the next voting every European Chapter has to check the correct email-address. All information you can find on www.redknightsmc.com/chaptermail.htm . If you have more questions the Region 7 Director will help you.



□ **EU Meeting 2017**

The European Annual Meeting 2017 will be organized by the Chapters Germany 7 and Germany 10 at Seifhennersdorf in Germany. The area is named Kiez Qwerxenland www.qwerxenland.de and is located in the region named Lausiz.

The organization is on a good way and the most are prepared. More information you can find at www.redknights7.de after December 1st 2016.

□ **EU Meeting 2018**

The European Annual Meeting 2018 will be held near Cork in the south of Ireland. Ireland 2 will organize this event. More information will follow as soon as possible.

□ **2017 International Convention**

In 2017 the International Convention will be held at Syracuse NY. It will be the biggest convention every time before.

Closing Remarks from European President:

□ **Knights of the Round Table**

Wauzi from France 2 has won the challenge of Knights of the Round Table. The tradition of this challenge means that the chapter of the winning Knight has to organize the next meeting. The meeting traditionally will be at the first weekend in August. In this time in the region of France 2 it's impossible to find an area to have the meeting to a payable price. In this circumstances Wauzi will organize the Round Table of Knights 2017 at Thun (near Bern, in Switzerland). The Chapter France 2 will help him.

Region 7 Director close the Meeting at 10:20h on September 10th 2016

For the protocol: Stefan "Sergeant" Streif