

Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc.



Europe Association
Office of the Secretary
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Minutes of the Board Meeting May 5th 2017 Andelfingen Switzerland

Participants: Tom Hoedjes (President)
Tom van der Kley (Treasurer)
Michael Pförtner (Road Captain) (Saturday May 6th only)
Stefan Streif (Secretary)

Excused: Jan van Herck (Vice-President)

Guests: Pierre Halleux (Regional Director 7)
Rolf Mühlemann (Quartermaster) (Saturday May 6th only)
Gery Jansen (Webmaster) (Saturday May 6th only)

1. The President opens the meeting at 20:45h and welcomes everyone.
2. Minutes from the Meeting of February 18th 2017
 - The minutes are accepted by all participants and will be donated to the secretary.
 - There were some problems with the release of the minutes. From this meeting on, the minutes will go to the board members first. They should react within 48h and send their comments to the secretary. If all members agree the changes the final version will send out to the country representatives and five days later the webmaster publish it on the homepage.
 - Some issues in the meetings are not for public knowing. For these points, it's necessary to declare an executive session in the meeting. In the minutes, these issues will be clearly declared and will not be in the public version.
3. Information from Region 7
see also the minutes of the International Board Spring Meeting
(http://redknightsmc.com/Site/downloads/Meeting-Minutes/MM_Spring%202017%20BOD.pdf)
 - There were problems with the information in the Red Knights' Book. The International Board will find out where is the problem and will inform later.
 - The International Board will declare what they have to do in the situation of a conflict of interest and create a new Bylaw Addition about this.
 - Today the time to opening a new chapter (6-8 weeks) is too long. The International Board will start an effort to make it easier. For instance there will be a link created on the homepage to all documents and an easily understandable text with all info to explain how a chapter is to be founded. Further it will be possible to sign the Trade Mark License on electronic way.
 - The number of Regional Reports will be reduced from four (4) to two (2) per year.
 - The MAL Applications from region 7 and 8 will be forwarded directly to the Regional Director of this Regions.



- A project to produce a promotional video is started. Pierre Halleux and Matt Mattered are in the lead of this project. First, they need a script of what we need from the regions to put together.
 - The International Board added the paragraph SOG 3.05 with the text "No member shall wear any diamond shaped patch, the "MC" Cube, the swastika or side rockers over 4 inches".
4. Nomination of the Red Knight of the Year
EXECUTIVE SESSION
 5. Elections 2017:
 - Regularly in 2017 the Vice President and the Treasurer are to elect for the next period of two years.
 - For the Vicepresident we have two nominations:
Jan "Jakke" Van Herck from Belgium 1
Aurélie Meunier, President and Secretary of Belgium 4
 - For the Treasurer, we have only one nomination:
Tom Van der Kley, MAL
 - Now, sparks will send the candidates a request to submit their profiles to the webmaster and he will put the profiles on the homepage.
 6. Changes and Amendments SOG EU Ass.
 - a. Red Knight of the Year
 - Discussion in the next Board Meeting (Agenda Item)
 - b. SOG 3:05 Vacancy
 - It is to vote on the text, which the Regional Director has introduced last Annual Meeting:
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.

7. Status MAL's

- 11 new MAL since January
- 2 new Chapters (Germany 15 and France 5)

8. Ongoing Finances by Treasurer

- The finances are in good standing. currently there is € 2208.96 on the account

a. Who paid the volunteer dues?

- Today the volunteer dues 2017 are paid by:
 - Austria 2
 - Belgium 1
 - Belgium 3
 - Belgium 4
 - Germany 1
 - Germany 2
 - Germany 3
 - Germany 6
 - Germany 7
 - Germany 8
 - Germany 9
 - Germany 10
 - Germany 11
 - Germany 13
 - Ireland 1
 - Netherland 1
 - Switzerland 1
 - Switzerland 3



- b. Discussion what amount we pay for the EUCON
EXECUTIVE SESSION
- *(end Executiv)*
 - **Proposal: Spend the budget for the EU-Convention 2017 for a free Center Patch for all attendants. (Passed 4-0)**
 - Pierre will talk with France 1 about the Trade Mark License and Micha will organize an offer for the patches
9. Status Iron Butt and how to go on
- 17 Members participate at the "Iron Butt" Award in 2016. There are 6 awards in bronze, 8 in silver and 3 in gold.
 - At the moment, we have a stock of 21 patches:
Bronze 1
Silver 14
Gold 6
10. Grand Tour Committee
- At the moment, every action runs from the hand of the Grand Tour Chairman in the US. The Regional Grand Tour Chairman of Region 7 and 8 are only postmen. In the future, the process shall be chanced like the process of the MAL. Pierre will talk with Perry Lewin about this item
 - There are several ideas for new Tour-Awards. In the discussion, we find that there should be not too much awards. If we will create a new one, we need a good goal behind it. It's better to see our friends then take photos from fire stations.
11. Website and Google Calendar
- Dutchy can only publish information he receives. He need the input from the chapters. Sparks will send out an email to all presidents with this item and its shall be tabled for the Annual Convention. For the publishing of new Chapters and MAL Pierre will create a special address list. The names of MAL should not be published on the internet.
 - Last year the home page dues were not paid in time because of absence of the president. Dutchy paid the cost and will be reimbursed by the treasurer.
12. Visiting International Annual Meeting Syracuse 2017
- Pierre Halleux, Tom Hoedjes, Jan van Herck and Rolf Mühlemann will visit the International Annual Meeting 2017 at Syracuse NY
13. Merchandising
- Pierre brought back a lot of material from the US. One item is 1'000 RKMC Member Cards. This member cards are valid for one year and should be sent by the members every year. President, QM and Reginal Director will discuss how this is to organize.
 - The collaboration with the new International QM had a very good start. Now, Rolf has only a problem with the addresses. He needs the exact addresses of the European members. Pierre will send the European Rooster.



- Rolf will send an email to every Chapter to ask them about open orders.
- a. New Merchandising
 - We need some new EU-Pins. The QM will organize an offer to produce some. Before this, Pierre will ask Belgium 1 if there is an old punching tool.
 - At the moment, no merchandising is planned for the International Convention in 2020. It is necessary to discuss about ideas because it is an event of the European Association.

b. Financial backbrief
EXECUTIVE SESSION

14. Varia

- For the presentation of an award, the whole Board will be present. This will make the event more official.
- The Fire Department of Lower Saxonia (Germany) ask us if we like to be presented at the next Interschutz in 2020 at Hannover. The Board favours this idea. It should be an event of the European Association and Micha will be the Chairman and Single Point of Contact (SPOC).
- We have an invitation to present the RKMC at the Weber Rescue Days in 2018. We will accept this invitation if we have no costs for the exhibition stand. Treasurer will contact Germany 8 for help and he will also be the SPOC.
- The box for voluntary dues will be present at the EU Convention 2017. The money will be granted for the Boylston Memorial of RKMC. Rolf will change the text on the box. The voluntary dues for the European Association will be paid directly to the Treasurer.
- Just today we never had a cash audit. The Treasurer is ready to do it and he will find an auditor as soon as possible.

15. Next Board Meeting will be held at Sept. 8th 2017, KiEZ "Querxenland", Germany

The president closes the meeting at 13:45 h on May 6th 2017

For the protocol: Stefan "Sergeant" Streif