

World Archery Americas General Assembly

Medellín, Colombia – Sept. 8, 2015

Summary

The 2015 World Archery Americas General Assembly was held in Medellín, Colombia at 4.30 pm on Sept. 8 with delegates from the following Member Associations:

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| Argentina | Estanislao Osos |
| Bolivia | Juan Carlos Sandi, Francisco Sandi |
| Brasil | Henrique Junqueira |
| Canada | Al Wills |
| Chile | William Smith |
| Colombia | Irma Lucia Ruiz |
| Costa Rica | Pablo Bonilla, Oscar Garcia |
| Cuba | Tamara Jimenez |
| Dominican Republic | Jose Miguel Robiou, Manuel Bartumeu |
| Ecuador | Omayra Ordoñez |
| El Salvador | Jesus Guevara |
| Guatemala | Federico Paiz |
| Peru | Andrea Chirinos |
| Puerto Rico | Adam Martínez, Jackeline Ruiz |
| Trinidad Tobago | Rakesh Sookoo |
| United States | Robert Romero |
| Venezuela | Johnny Hernandez |
| Virgin Islands | William Coles, Ruth Rowe |

The Assembly was presided over by Mrs. Maria Emma Gaviria (WAA President), together with Mr. Tom Dielen (WA Secretary General), Sergio Font (WAA Secretary General), and WAA Vice Presidents Robert Romero, Estanislao Osos and José Miguel Robiou.

Also present were the three members of WAA's Athletes' Committee Juan René Serrano (MEX), Natalia Sanchez (COL) and Roberto Hernandez (ESA); WAA Medical Committee Member Dr. Hector Garcia (COL); WAA Development Committee Members Phil Graves (USA) and Rodrigo Saborio (CRC), Robert Pian (on behalf of the Organizing Committee of the Arizona Cup), and Sofía García (a guest from the Mexican Ministry of Sports) were also in attendance.

The Chilean delegate, Mr. William Smith, carried the proxy vote of the Archery Federation of Paraguay.

Opening by the President

Mrs. Maria Emma Gaviria welcomed all the participants to Medellin and to the General Assembly. A special welcome was given to the Archery Federation of Bolivia, which has recently become a new member of World Archery and World Archery Americas.

Address by Tom Dielen, WA Secretary General

On behalf of World Archery, Mr. Tom Dielen wished World Archery Americas lots of success in the General Assembly. He made reference to a number of activities World Archery has been carrying out in the last few months as part of their strategic development plan.

Mr. Dielen referred to the success of the 2015 Toronto Pan American Games, and highlighted the importance of the Lima 2019 Games, in which we should be able to include the compound bow and the mixed team round. A commission has been formed by WA to ensure a similar format for the three major Continental Games regarding competition schedule and events in the program.

The President's Report

Maria Emma Gaviria reported on her participation in PASO meetings in January in Mexico and in July in Canada. On behalf of WAA, she made important contacts with PASO officials to discuss ways in which PASO could support Continental Sport Confederations in addition to supporting National Olympic Committees.

World Archery Americas submitted a development program to PASO in February, but due to the passing of the PASO President and Secretary General we did not receive an answer. After the PASO meeting in Toronto, WAA sent the program again.

Maria Emma spoke about an amount of money archery is likely to receive from PASO as a result of the tickets sold to watch the archery event of the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games.

At the PASO meeting in Toronto, Maria Emma held talks with Mr. Jose Quiñones, President of the Peruvian Olympic Committee regarding the archery competition of the Lima 2019 Pan Am Games. Mr. Quiñones will come to Medellin on the occasion of the World Cup within the next few days after the General Assembly. It will be a good opportunity for him to watch top level archery and to discuss with WA and WAA matters related with archery in Peru and the 2019 Pan American Games.

The Secretary General's Report

Mr. Sergio Font, WAA Secretary General, explained that WAA currently has 31 Member Associations. The latest two member associations to become affiliated are Guyana and Bolivia, which have already shown activity in relation to development programs and international participation.

He expressed WAA's concern about a few Member Associations which are totally or almost totally inactive: Haiti, Suriname, Bermuda, Bahamas, Nicaragua, Panama and Honduras. Little or no response has been received from these countries in the last few months.

The Secretary General made reference to the fact that World Archery America now holds a Certificate of Existence and Representation in Colombia, which makes it a legally recognized institution in the country where it is based. A copy of the first page of this document was distributed to all General Assembly delegates.

Mr. Font presented the financial report for 2014. This report was duly submitted to the Finance and Audit Board, which made a statement of approval. In addition to this report, he mentioned a few expenses WAA had in the first half of 2015, which will be included in the report to be submitted at the end of this year.

Report on Development Programs and Missions

Mr. Sergio Font reported on the programs and missions currently underway in the Americas, and on others already concluded or planned for the last few months in the year.

The most important projects and missions referred to are:

- The Easton/Hoyt Program – Five countries have already received or will be receiving their equipment in the next few months: the Virgin Islands, Trinidad Tobago, El Salvador, Peru and the Dominican Republic, with equipment worth 18 048.61 USD. A total of 11 951.39 is still available for distribution to countries that meet the pre-established minimum requirements.
- The Youth Development Program conducted by WA Coach Ivan Yotov
- A Classifiers' Seminar in Medellin, Colombia on Nov. 21-22. Mr. Font called upon the delegates present to send candidates to this seminar. He explained the importance of this type of seminar to develop para-archery.
- Judges Seminar in Rio de Janeiro. Candidates from Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Spain and Argentina will attend.
- Judges Conference in Tijuana, Mexico
- Mission in Guyana. Pictures of the two seminars held in Guyana were shown. Some General Assembly delegates expressed their interest in this type of seminar to construct PVC bows. Tom Dielen mentioned that power point presentations are available online in reference to PVC bow manufacture.
- Coaches Seminar in Puerto Rico. This seminar will be conducted by Coach Phil Graves on Oct. 7-11.
- Coaches Seminar in Salt Lake City. There are still a few positions available. World Archery Americas will accept applications until Sept. 15.
- Continental System to Train Coaches. Further details in a presentation by US Coach Phil Graves later in the Assembly.
- Continental Judges Seminar in Puerto Rico (already held).
- Continental Judges Seminar in Guatemala (already held).
- Projects. The Secretary General mentioned the Member Associations which have recently sent development projects to WAA.

A detailed report on development projects and missions is attached to this summary.

Presentation by Phil Graves on a System for Coaches' Education and Assessment

US Coach Phil Graves, Member of WAA Development Committee, made a presentation on a proposal of system to train and assess coaches to be used all over the Americas. Mr. Graves started his presentation by explaining that this system does not contradict the system that World Archery uses.

Several General Assembly delegates asked questions and made very positive comments on the presentation.

Mr. Graves and the Secretary General invited all delegates present to have their coaches attend a roundtable for coaches on Friday Sept. 11 in the afternoon. The main goal of the roundtable is to discuss details related to the system being proposed.

Report on Events

The Secretary General made a brief summary of the WREs held in the Americas so far in 2015. Very positive comments were made on the Pan American and Parapan American Games held in Toronto.

Positive comments were also made about the Arizona Cup, the WRE in Chile and the Copa Merengue held in the Dominican Republic. Regarding the Mexican Grand Prix, it was mentioned that there were organizational issues and that the Mexican recurve team did not take part, which caused disappointment to several participating teams.

Committee reports

The Secretary General mentioned that the report of the Medical Committee was previously distributed to all Member Associations. He referred to the job of the Legal Matters Committee and the Judges Committee. Mr. Font mentioned that there is a lot to be done regarding Para-Archery in the Americas, and that that is a task to be undertaken by the Para-Committee. The Audit and Finance Board carried out the task assigned to them.

Documents submitted by the Legal Matters Committee

Two documents were prepared by the Legal Matters Committee. The first one has to do with the Athletes' Committee. Modifications were proposed by a Member of the Athletes' Committee and by the President of the Archery Association of Guatemala. It was agreed that these suggestions should be submitted to the chairman of the Legal Matters Committee and that a final proposal be sent to the Sec. Gral for distribution to all Member Associations for a postal vote before the end of the year.

The second document regarding Disciplinary Rules was unanimously approved by the Member Associations present.

Report on the organization of the 2016 Pan American Championships

The President of the Archery Federation of Costa Rica made a report on the organization of the Pan American Championships, which will be held in San Jose in May 2016. The report included information on accommodation, competition venue, tentative schedule, among other topics.

World Ranking Events for 2016

Three countries submitted their application forms to hold World Ranking Events in 2016: the USA, Argentina and Guatemala. Presentations were made by Robert Pian (USA) on the Arizona Cup, Estanislao Osoreo (ARG) on a WRE in Iguazu, and by Federico Paiz (GUA) on a WRE in Guatemala.

The General Assembly agreed to accept these three events in addition to the Pan American Championships as World Ranking Tournaments for 2016 on the following dates:

1. *World Ranking Event, Guatemala – March 7-13*
2. *Arizona Cup – Phoenix, USA – April 7-11*
3. *Pan American and Parapan American Championships, San Jose, Costa Rica, May 24-29*
4. *World Ranking Event, Iguazu, Argentina – July 25-29*

It was also agreed that the Continental Qualification Tournament for compound archers to compete at the 2017 World Games would be held in conjunction with the Pan American Championships in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Other permissible business

The President of the Guatemalan Archery Federation brought to the attention of the General Assembly delegates that action needs to be taken by World Archery Americas regarding the inclusion of archery in the program of the Central American Games which are scheduled to be held in Nicaragua in 2017.

The Secretary General said that WAA will contact the NOC of Nicaragua and of the other countries in the region to come to an agreement that would guarantee the inclusion of archery in the program with the possibility of holding the archery tournament in another country.

Closing

The President thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the General Assembly closed at 9.40 pm.