



**Meeting of the Caribbean Archery Federations
Manati, Puerto Rico – May 3, 2017
Hyatt Place Hotel – 7.30 pm**

Agenda

1. Presentation by the WAA Secretary General
 - a. WAA and the Caribbean – current situation
 - b. Issues arising from the Sept. 2016 questionnaire
 - c. Associate Members and their integration
 - d. Qualifiers for the 2018 Central American and Caribbean Games

2. Archery Development in the Caribbean – the way forward
 - a. Development plans – their continuous assessment and redesign
 - b. Programs for young archers
 - c. Administration and communications
 - d. Equipment donations and special pricing for purchases
 - e. Seminars (coaches, judges)
 - f. Preparation for future events

3. Continuity of the Caribbean Development Championship

4. Presentation on Para Archery development by International Classifier Nancy Littke

The meeting is conducted by Sergio FONT, WAA Secretary General. Also present are Nancy LITCKE (Member of WAA Medical Committee and International Classifier), Barbara HERNANDEZ (Chair of the WAA Development Committee), and Phil GRAVES (Member of WAA Development Committee).

Delegates in attendance

José Miguel ROBIOU	President	Dominican Republic
Anne ABERNATHY	Secretary General	US Virgin Islands
Amanda WAREHIME	Vice President	US Virgin Islands
Patrick SMITH	President	British Virgin Islands
Ritseeniyah GEORGES	Secretary General	British Virgin Islands
David RAHMING	President	Bahamas
Richard MORRIS	President	Barbados
Dominique ROUX-SERRET	Vice President	Guadeloupe
Christian COMTE	President	Martinique
Nikhil KANHAI	Vice President	Trinidad – Tobago
Vladimir DOMINGUEZ	Secretary General	Cuba
Adam MARTINEZ	President	Puerto Rico



In addition to the official representatives listed above, some archers and coaches from the British Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Trinidad - Tobago were also present.

The General Secretary of World Archery Americas, Sergio FONT welcomes everyone present at this meeting and introduces the Presidents, Vice Presidents and Secretary Generals of all the Caribbean Federations: Barbados, British Virgin Islands, US Virgin Islands, Bahamas, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Trinidad and Tobago, Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic.

He mentions that the Federations of Guyana and Haiti apologized for not being able to attend.

Mr. FONT speaks now on behalf of Mrs. Maria Emma GAVIRIA, WAA Presidents, who has sent a message to all participants wishing them a successful meeting. He takes the opportunity to refer to Mrs. GAVIRIA's participation in the PASO General Assembly only a few days ago. He explains that as a result of a long process of negotiations with the Pan American Sports Organization and the Peruvian Olympic Committee and Pan Am Games Organizing Committee, we have been able to get the Compound Bow included in the 2019 Games with 10 spots in each gender. Mr. FONT acknowledges the support given by the WA President Dr. Ugur ERDENER, and Secretary General, Mr. Tom DIELEN to this endeavor.

The agenda is presented and copies are given away to the delegates. Mr. FONT goes on to provide information (aided by a Power Point presentation) about the current number of WAA Members and Associate Members. There are 32 members in World Archery Americas. 6 of them are in the English Speaking Caribbean, 1 is French Speaking, and 3 are Spanish Speaking. The mainland English and Dutch speaking members are Guyana and Suriname. World Archery Americas is very pleased with the increasing interest and activity displayed by some of the newest members, namely the British Virgin Islands and Guyana.

In addition, the Secretary General welcomes our two Associate Members: the Archery Leagues of Martinique and Guadeloupe, and explains all the process to get them affiliated. He adds that these two French territories will be taking part in the First Qualifier for the Central American Games in Guatemala next month.

The first item on the Agenda is the issues arising from the questionnaire sent to the members last September. A list of 14 topics is shown and discussed by the participants:

1. Strategic Planning- advisory is needed. The SG announces that as was published in the most recent WAA Bulletin, World Archery has appointed Ms. Denise PARKER and Mr. FONT himself as consultants for matters related with Strategy Planning. He distributes a three-page guide with information as to how to start making a strategic plan.

2. Sports administration – See ítem 1. The President of World Archery Barbados asks if WAA has the financial conditions to assist some federations that need assistance regarding administration on site. Mr. FONT replies that the WAA budget is very limited, but requests for assistance are welcome, and WAA will do its best to find the best solution to provide the assistance requested.

3. Website - The SG refers to the fact that not many Member Associations have a website. WAA has appointed Vice President Al WILLS to deal with website needs of National Federations wanting to create their own on the WAA Website platform. Barbados is one the federations that has already contacted Mr. WILLS with this purpose. The SG reckons that the WAA website needs some make-up to make it more attractive and easier to surf through.

4. Partnership with NOC and Governmental Sports Institutions. Not much has been done to get sponsorship either. Mr. FONT invites the Sec. Gral of the British Virgin Islands Archery Federation to speak to this matter and explain what her Federation has been doing in this regard. . She explains how they get funding for their archers. They presented a plan to private corporations and have started to include archery in some schools. She also explains the benefit of developing partnership programs. The BVI delegation also displays the logo of their partnership. Mr. FONT suggests that when approaching educational institutions to try to include archery in their programs the values of archery as a sport that contributes to the enrichment of noble and selfless human beings should be highlighted. Likewise, Mr. FONT explains that it is not possible to get any sort of partnership or sponsorship if a Federation does not have a plan to show.

5. Small or no tournaments. The SG mentions that World Archery does not want inactive Members. One of the criteria for a National Federation to be considered active is that it should hold National Championships. These Nationals do not necessarily need to be outdoors. Indoor events at short distances can be held in those nations whose equipment does not allow their archers to shoot at long distances yet. WAA is willing to assist regarding how to put together a competition. WAA will be more than happy to publish the list of events our MAs will be holding each year, so that neighboring countries can participate as well.

6. Few juniors and cadets. Mr. FONT speaks of the importance of bringing young people to archery. They are the future. Unfortunately in some of the Federations in the Caribbean the average age of the archers who represent the country is relatively high as compared to the international standards. WAA will continue to support those development plans that aim at raising the number and quality of young archers.

7. No permanent facilities for archery. This issue was mentioned by several MAs in their questionnaires. Unfortunately WAA cannot do much in this regard, because it is the National Federations that need to approach their own NOC or Governmental Sports



Institutions to ask for a facility, which may be small to start with. Again, Mr. FONT refers to the need to have a development plan before these institutions are approached. WAA can, however, provide assistance on facility layout and constructive requirements if requested.

8. No high performance coaches. Mr. FONT refers to the recently adopted WAA Coach Education and Assessment Program, designed by US Coach Phil GRAVES. Mr. GRAVES explains the importance of meeting the new requirements for a coach to be trained and accredited at the three levels included in the Program: recreational, development and high performance. Post-Course tasks are now mandatory, and they should all aim at solving a problem identified by or for the National Federation concerned. Mr. FONT announces that several Olympic Solidarity Seminars are in the making, one of them to take place in Barbados in July. Mr. MORRIS, President of the Barbados Federation, takes the opportunity to invite all Federations present to send their coaches to this seminar.

9. No coach education programs – closely related to item 8.

10. No judge education programs. The SG explains that there is no Continental or International Judge in the English Speaking Caribbean, and that WAA encourages these Federations to organize seminars with this purpose. The President of the Bahamas Archery Federation asks what the system is to train judges from National to International level. Mr. FONT explains that the WA system starts from the level of Continental Judge Education. Each National Federation is entitled (and expected) to prepare their own National Judge Training System, and WAA is available to assist in their design and implementation. The President of World Archery Barbados asks what the best sources are to get people interested in judging. The President of the Archery Federation of Puerto Rico answers that one source can be the parents who bring their children to do archery. Mr. FONT mentions that another important source is the Physical Education teachers of the schools in which archery is introduced.

11. No youth archery development programs.- Already addressed in item 6.

12. Lack of equipment. Mr. FONT makes reference to the donations WAA has been able to get from Easton and Hoyt for those Federations which have submitted their development plans. He is pleased to say that in most of the cases this equipment is being wisely and widely used by beginning or intermediate archers. This donation program will continue in 2017. WAA is in the process of selecting the countries to benefit from it. In addition, WAA has made an agreement with Easton and Hoyt to allow some of our MAs to purchase directly from these manufacturers at special prices. All purchases need to go through the WAA Secretary General and, upon request of the companies involved; only one order can be placed for each MA each year.

13. No Para-archery programs. Mr. FONT explains that WAA is putting a lot of time, effort and money into developing Para Archery. We need more countries with this archery discipline in order to start fighting again to get archery back in the program of the Para Pan



American Games. He introduces Nancy LITTKE, who makes a presentation that includes general information on Para-Archery, its categories, types of disabilities, classification, where to go to find potential Para-archers, etc. Several delegates asked questions to get further clarification. Mr. FONT adds that each country has a National Paralympic Committee or Association, and that these are the people to resort to for funding once you have started getting individuals with disabilities involved with archery.

14. Physical trainers, sports medicine, mental training not included in national archery programs. Mr. FONT and Coach GRAVES highlight the importance of these resources in modern archery. A serious national team needs them all to build their training programs. A Mental Training Seminar will be held in Medellin in September this year.

The second item in the Agenda is the information on the inclusion of the two Associate Members. On behalf of Martinique and Guadeloupe, Mr. COMTE thanks World Archery Americas for accepting them. He also thanks Pascal COLMAIRE and the Mr. Phillip BOUCLET, president of the French Archery Federation at the time the affiliation process started. He expresses his appreciation to Mr. Adam MARTINEZ (President of Puerto Rico Archery Federation) for his hospitality.

Item d. deals with the Qualification System for the Central American and Caribbean Games. Mr. FONT shows the number of spots to distribute in the first qualifier in Guatemala, and in the second one. He explains that the venue and dates of the second qualifier will be determined at the WAA General Assembly in Mexico City. Mr. ROBIOU (Dominican Republic) announces that he will be presenting a bid to organize this event on behalf of his Federation in Mexico.

Most items in the agenda having to do with the way forward were fully covered when the issues from the Questionnaire were addressed. Regarding the preparation for future events, Mr. FONT mentions that in addition to solutions locally devised, holding joint training camps with other countries may help the younger federations a lot. In 2018 there will be important qualifiers for a number of events: the Second Qualifier for the CACG, the Continental Qualifier for the Youth Olympic Games, and the First Qualifier for the Pan American Games on the occasion of the Pan American Championships in Colombia. Something else that may be done, and WAA would try to support, is missions of international coaches to assist in the preparation of these teams for these major events.

Mr. FONT refers to the various possibilities of scholarships that Olympic Solidarity is offering. All of the information was distributed to our Member Associations, but in case the information has not been received, or advice becomes necessary, the National Federations may contact WAA for assistance.

On the topic of the Caribbean Development Championships, the SG asks if the nations involved would like to have a new issue in 2018. A unanimous YES was loudly heard. Mr. FONT asks if anything needs to be improved. Mrs. ABERNATHY (ISV) asks to



consider reducing the number of days so that the archers do not miss school days, and to hold the event during the summer vacation time. Mr. KANHAI (TTO) asks if the distance can be longer. Coach GRAVES reminds that this is a development event, and that a longer distance cannot be reached with accuracy by archers shooting very basic equipment.

Mr. FONT explains that the decision on when and where the 2018 event will be held will be made at the WAA General Assembly in October in Mexico.

In reference to events, Mr. FONT talks about the Multi-Site Indoor Championship of the Americas (MICA), and encourage all Federations present to participate in 2018.

The SG goes on to refer to two very important meetings: the WA Congress and the WAA General Assembly. He states that it is very important that the Americas be represented there by most of our Members, and in case a Federation is not able to send a delegate, a proxy vote should be given to another country. So far five candidates from the Americas have been nominated for positions in World Archery: Mrs. Maria Emma GAVIRIA for Vice President, Mr. Greg EASTON for the Executive Board, Mr. Al WILLS for the Target Committee, as well as Mrs. Nancy LITTKE and Mr. Carlos HERMES for the Medical and Sports Science Committee.

The meeting is adjourned at 10.30 pm.