

Report of the ETS Directive Committee (Board) meeting Sunday, May the 18th, 2008

The European Turfgrass Society Directive Committee (Board) met on may the 18th, 2008 in Pisa, at the congress palace of the University of Pisa.

Participants:

Mr. Marco Volterrani – President
Mr. Stephen Alderton
Mr. Adriano Altissimo
Mr. Stephen Baker
Mr. Stanislav Hejduk
Mr. Gerard van't Klooster
Mr. Alexander Richter

And, as external observers:

Mrs Cilluf Svensson
Mrs Francesca Amendola

Mr. Klaus Muller- Beck, member of the board, could not take part to the meeting and was absent.

Order of the day:

1. Budget 2007 and 2008
2. Some points in preparation of the General assembly of May, 20th.
3. Selling of the ETS Conference proceedings
4. Membership fees for 2009
5. 2010 general assembly and next years meetings - meetings timetable
6. 2008 ETS working plan
7. 2008 ETS members approval

Mr Altissimo – secretary and treasurer - reminds the board some procedures that will be followed in the general assembly the following day. In particular, the 2007 final balance, the 2008 opening balance sheet, the list of the members and the 2008 working plan will be presented at the General assembly for their approval.

Mr Altissimo submits to the board the 2007 final balance and the 2008 opening balance sheet. He estimates that ETS should reach in the next years some 250- 300 ordinary memberships per year, in order to reach an economic stability. In fact, he reminds that the statute of ETS allows only the following money entries: membership fees, conference profits, selling of the conference proceedings. At the moment ETS budget is based partly on ETS ordinary memberships, partly on silver and golden memberships.

The board accepts and acknowledges the 2007 final balance.

The board accepts and acknowledges 2008 opening balance sheet.

Mr. Volterrani proposes to open the 2009 membership campaign in October 2008, by inserting specific messages on the website and by informing 2008 members by e-mail.

The board approves.

The board discusses in order to establish the price of the proceedings of the conference. A price of 48.00€ for the proceedings paper volume and of 100.00€ for proceedings (paper volume) + 2009 membership is fixed.

Furthermore, the board establishes that the ETS conference will be held every 2 year, before the end of April.

According to the statute, the assembly has to be held every year: in coincidence with the conference, or in occasion of specific important events (such as fairs, field days, visit of companies or institutions) every other year.

Candidatures for 2010 ETS Conference will be collected in the next months and discussed during the next board meeting, that will take place before the end of 2008.

Mr. Altissimo and Mr. Volterrani propose a draft of the 2008 working plan, which is discussed by the rest of the board. At the end of this discussion, the final working plan is approved.

It includes:

ETS promotion by means of articles on different turf journals and magazines
Choosing ETS members with the function of “representative” for each country. They will inform ETS about fairs, meetings and news in their area, and will keep in contact with local press and members.

Mr. van’t Klooster focuses on the fact that this kind of activity must start from the board members.

ETS slide presentation: Mr. Altissimo proposes to prepare a short ETS presentation (5-6 slides) that the board members (and the other ETS members on request) will add to their own presentations in meetings, speeches and fairs.

Institution of a grant to enhance an economic study on the market of turf. Mr. Alderton will write a proposal to be sent to European universities.

The final working program will be presented to the general assembly.

The Board accepts all the members that subscribed since January the 1st, including those that are going to subscribe in the next two days, before the beginning of the general assembly on the late morning of May, the 20th.

Mr. Volterrani proposes Mrs. Cilluf Svensson as a board member candidate.

The board approves this report and closes the meeting.

ETS secretary
Mr. Adriano Altissimo

ETS president
Mr. Marco Volterrani