

Report of the ETS Directive Committee (Board) meeting Telephone (skype) meeting - Monday, November the 30th, 2009

The European Turfgrass Society Directive Committee (Board) met via computer for its second skype meeting on November 30th, 2009.

Participants:

Mr. Marco Volterrani – President
Mr. Stephen Alderton
Mr. Adriano Altissimo
Mr. Stephen Baker
Mr. Klaus Mueller Beck
Mr. Alexander Richter
Mr. Stanislav Hejduk
Mr. Gerard van Klooster

Ms. Cilluf Svensson could not attend the meeting.

As board secretary:

Ms. Francesca Amendola

Moderator of the skype conference: Mr. Stephen Alderton.

Order of the day:

A) TOPICS

- 1) Angers conference: update (Abstracts, Posters and oral presentations, other issues...)
- 2) Market research on European turfgrass market: update
- 3) Historical research: update
- 4) Country representatives: how to choose them, how to carry out this network (Sport country representatives, ETS country representatives ...)
- 5) News, documents and newsletters: contributions from board and members
- 6) Future ETS Board Members (topic proposed by Alexander Richter)

B) NEWS

- 7) Even if ETS already accepted the proposal for London 2012, ETS received a new spontaneous application to organize the 2012 congress from another institution.
- 8) Mr. Mueller-Beck managed that every ETS Board Member will receive a free subscription of the magazine "EJTS – European Journal of Turfgrass Science" for the entire year 2010
- 9) 2010 ETS memberships campaign: update

C) Any Other Business

The board meeting starts at 11.12 AM

1) Angers conference

Mr. Alderton, who takes part to the organizing committee of the conference, updates the board. The website is on-line now and it is going to be improved in the next days.

The editor collected about 100 papers. Some of them are about commercial products. The board agrees on the following rule: papers have to refer to molecules and the commercial product can be cited only once, in the material and methods paragraph. The board agrees also that it is important to have original presentations at the conference: they should not be a duplication of previous presentations; the referees have to check this. Oral presentations will be organised in sessions, each one will have a specific theme and title.

Visits on the field are still going to be organised.

The board discusses to establish criteria for the choice of the invited speakers. Their choice will depend on the title of the oral sessions. One of them will come from France. Mr. Alderton will send an e-mail to collect ideas and candidatures. Once the invited speakers are chosen, the board member coming from the same country will invite him, otherwise the president, Mr. Volterrani, will do the invitation.

The keynote speakers will possibly be authors of the papers already presented at the conference.

ETS will offer them a free registration to the conference and the accommodation, not the travel expenses.

The board will ask the editor to indicate some papers of very high quality in order to candidate the authors as key note speakers.

Programme of the conference: the board discusses about it. Mr. Alderton will provide a new programme added with oral sessions.

The General Assembly Meeting is shifted at the end of the afternoon of Tuesday 13th of April

During the conference, 2 board meetings will take place:

- ❖ On April 11th at 5.00 PM
- ❖ On April 14th from 8 to 9 AM

2) Market research on European turfgrass market: update

Mr. Altissimo relates about his contacts with a couple of professors, from the University of Padua and the University of New Zealand. The methodology they suggest is good, but the budget is very heavy.

He will send to the board their research proposal.

Mr Volterrani declares that the University of Padua can be a very good choice.

For Mr. Alderton it is important to present something concrete on the subject during the Angers conference.

3) Historical research: update

Mr Mueller Beck and Mr. Richter present the latest draft of a document to decide in which direction the work has to go.

Mr. Richter reports his conversations with prof. Skirde, who is ready to provide information on German-language countries.

Mr. Baker will prepare a common document; Ms. Amendola will send it to prof. Skirde. the first step of the work will be the reception of the **raw** documents in PDF format and their insertion in the ETS database. For sure, ETS needs clearance from the.

4) Country representatives

To indicate possible Country representatives, ETS will choose among its members. Mr. Volterrani prepared a tentative grid indicating countries and some tentative candidatures.

Ms. Amendola will circulate it to the board.
The board will submit candidatures.
Their duties are:

- ❖ Provide a first document on the country situation
- ❖ Provide 2 reports per year on the news of the turfgrass sector in their country

5) News, documents and newsletters: contributions from board and members

Board members and country representatives will provide all useful news and documents.

6) Future ETS Board Members

Mr. Richter proposes to create commissions or subgroups in order to involve more deeply ETS members and to increase the number of members.

The board agrees that it is not possible to increase the number of board members (because of the statute of ETS). There will be working groups on specific themes (i.e. historical group).

Prof. Gabriels, who belongs to the organizing committee of the 2011 Field Days, will be also invited to take part to the group on the sport guidelines, coordinated by S. Baker. The board proposes to invite him as key note speaker in Angers, so that he will also present the 2011 event, even if the list of key note speakers has to be defined yet.

7) Even if ETS already accepted the proposal for London 2012, ETS received a new spontaneous application to organize the 2012 congress from another institution.

The board decided sometime ago that the 2010 conference would take place in London, organized by the STRI and Mr. Baker.

Nevertheless, Mr. Baker informs the board about his concerns regarding the success of the conference. In fact, in 2011 in London there the ISHS – International Society of Horticultural Science - Conference on turfgrasses will take place, with a risk of overlapping with the ETS conference.

Mr. Baker will collect more information and will update the board in a couple of weeks.

8) Mr. Mueller-Beck managed that every ETS Board Member will receive a free subscription of the magazine "EJTS" for the next complete year 2010.

All the board thanks Mr. Mueller Beck

9) 2010 ETS memberships campaign: update

Ms. Amendola updates the board on the 2010 membership campaign.

Even if there are few renewals yet, the new fees system showed to fit the needs of ETS producing a higher revenue.

Large part of the ETS members will renew their membership in the first month of the year.

Next board meetings

The board decided to meet again via skype on February the 1st at 11.00. On March the 29th at 11.00 the board will meet via skype to focus of the Angers conference.

The board meeting ends at 1.39PM