



70. Ordentlicher FIL-Kongress

**Hall in Tirol / AUT
June 18-19, 2022**

70th Ordinary Congress of the FIL

**Hall in Tirol / AUT
June 18-19, 2022**

Protokoll / Minutes

**Erstellt und übersetzt durch das FIL-Büro in Berchtesgaden, Deutschland.
Prepared and translated by the FIL Office in Berchtesgaden, Germany.**

Saturday, June 18, 2022	9:00 am
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1. Opening and welcome

FIL President Einars Fogelis extends a very warm welcome to the participants of the Congress and officially opens the 70th FIL Congress 2022. He is glad to be able to greet the delegates in person.

In his welcoming remarks he specifically addresses the city mayor of Hall **Christian Margreiter**, the President of the Austrian Luge Federation **Markus Prock**, and the **FIL Honorary President Josef Fendt**.

Mayor **Christian Margreiter** welcomes the Congress participants and is pleased that the Congress is being held in the city of Hall in Tirol.

Also welcoming FIL Congress participants is **Markus Prock** who is pleased that the Austrian Luge Federation has this opportunity to host the Congress.

President E. Fogelis informs the Congress that unfortunately **General Secretary D. Bell** could not attend for family reasons.

Others who, unfortunately, could not attend the Congress are VP Australia/Oceania **G. Balme**, VP Asia **J. Park**, and Ethics Officer **N. Hiedl**, as well as **FIL honorary member Hartmut Kardaetz** and **Svein Romstad**.

A special welcome also goes out to the **representatives of the national federations**, representatives of the RGS agency, Rudi Größwang, Sr. and Rudi Größwang, Jr., the representative of SportA, Jörg Augustin, the Chairman of the Athletes Commission and Executive Board member **Ch. Mazdzer**, all media representatives, and all other Congress participants.

He congratulates the new and re-elected NF presidents:

Markus Prock (AUT), Velislava Borisova (BUL), Jani Tilvis (FIN), Sorin Buta (ROU), engineer Viera Bachárová Findurová (SVK), Taras Hartsula (UKR), Natalia Gart (RUS),

and General Secretary Ms. Junko Hatanaka (JPN), on their new posts.

Furthermore, he welcomes the representatives of advertisers and event organizers as well as representatives of the commissions.

A moment of silence follows for **quiet reflection** on the **luge functionaries and former athletes** who passed away in the past year.

President E. Fogelis mentioned a few of these persons:

- **Sergey Danilin/RUS**
Silver medalist, 1984 Olympic Winter Games in Sarajevo, World Champion in 1981 (total of 5 World Championship medals), European Champion in 1986
- **Adam "AJ" Rosen/GBR**
Died on December 19, 2021 at the age of 37
- **Bob Cole/USA**
Honorary FIL member, founding member of FIL in 1957, died on May 12, 2022 at the age of 91

Moment of silence

President E. Fogelis declared that the invitations and the agenda were delivered to the NFs in a timely manner, and since there were no requests to speak at this point, that the 70th FIL Congress was duly convened.

Executive Director, Ch. Schweiger, informs those present about the further course of the Congress.

2. Roll call of attendees and voting rights

Executive Director Ch. Schweiger welcomes the Congress participants and takes a roll call of attendees. At the time of the Congress opening there are **31 members/NFs with a seat and a vote** in the meeting room.

Participating in the 70th FIL Congress (1st day of the Congress on June 18, 2022) are:

31 national federations with a seat and a vote

0 provisional members

Simple majority = 16

2/3 majority = 21

3. Existing motions for exclusion/suspension of Russia as a member of FIL:

Discussion/drafting of resolution

This agenda item is deleted, since it was already addressed at the FIL Extraordinary Congress held on April 8, 2022 and subsequently by the FIL Court of Arbitration.

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous Congress

Congress resolution 01/22

The minutes of the 69th FIL Congress 2021 in Salzburg/AUT are approved.

-unanimously-

5. Medals of Honor

President E. Fogelis and Vice-President H. Steyrer present the following medals of honor directly to recipients or their representatives:

Gold FIL medal:

- Peter Knauseder/AUT
- Norbert Hiedl/GER
- Atis Strenga/LAT

Silver FIL medal:

- Sandris Berzins/LAT
- Bibi Walden/SWE
- Bo Näsström/SWE
- Volodymyr Vakhrushev/UKR

Bronze FIL medal:

- Xudong Zhang/CHN (to representative)
- Miroslav Jelen/CZE
- Thomas Kirsten/GER
- Hannes Schneider/GER
- Norbert Gatz/GER (posthumously)
- Normunds Kotans/LAT
- Bogdan Macovei/MDA
- Zenon Chornomidze/UKR
- Svitlana Zhydkova/UKR
- Valentin Paperovyy/UKR
- Taras Hartsula/UKR
- Anatoliy Malyshchyk/UKR

6. Acceptance of new members

President E. Fogelis informs the Congress that **Thailand and the Dominican Republic** are being accepted as **provisional members**, since the applications they submitted fulfill the formal prerequisites for this.

7. Working reports of Executive Board members

President E. Fogelis and **General Secretary D. Bell** present their reports to the Congress. A video presentation was received in advance from **D. Bell**.

All other reports of the Executive Board members and officeholders can be read in the Congress dossier. The dossier was provided to all national federations in a timely manner by e-mail/FTP server in advance of the Congress.

7.1 President

You will find the Congress report by *Einars Fogelis* in **enclosure 1**.

7.2 General Secretary – Video message

You will find the Congress report by General Secretary Dwight Bell in **enclosure 2**.

President E. Fogelis thanks **General Secretary D. Bell** for his report as General Secretary and gives the Executive Board the opportunity for supplemental comments.

VP C. DelNegro, VP A. Zöggeler, VP Th. Schwab, VP P. Knauseder, and athletes' representative Ch. Mazdzer also present brief reports to the Congress.

Other reports by Executive Board members

VP C. DelNegro and **VP A. Zöggeler** offer some remarks to the Congress and address, in particular, the SLIDE 2026 strategic plan and its implementation.

VP Th. Schwab:

- Very fast transformation
- Contract extensions were complicated by Covid-19, but we were able to safeguard further implementation of our strategy.
- Shaping our brand – new World Cup logo
- SLIDE 2026 strategic plan

VP P. Knauseder:

- Down-to-earth attitude, tradition, nature, sustainability.
- Luge on natural track since 1893.
- Luge on natural track should retain a place in FIL.
- Thanks for the congenial cooperation over the past years.

Athletes' representative Ch. Mazdzer:

- New generation of athletes.
- E-sports will play a large role in the future.

30-MINUTE BREAK

IRL has joined the Congress, and there are now **32 members/NFs with a seat and a vote** in the meeting room.

Participating in the 70th FIL Congress (1st day of the Congress on June 18, 2022) are:

32 national federations with a seat and a vote

0 provisional members

Simple majority = 17

2/3 majority = 22

8. Discussion on the working reports

E. Fogelis gives the Executive Board and Congress participants the opportunity to ask questions about the reports.

The Congress participants do not have any further questions about the reports.

9. Preliminary discussion of the motions

(Immediate voting on motions that do not require any further discussion)

President E. Fogelis gives the floor to the Chairman of the Legal Committee, **Dr. Ch. Krähe**.

9.1 Motions related to the statutes

Dr. Ch. Krähe explains to the Congress the following motions for change:

- **Motion 1** (WG statutes of FIL/FIL Executive Board) "Motion for extensive changes to statutes" – delegates have exact wording of the changes as a handout
 - *Changes to implementation of the SLIDE 2026 strategic plan: FIL to be opened up to include popular sport – individual changes are discussed*
 - *Includes FIL name change FIL in German and French: Internationaler Rodelverband; Fédération Internationale de Luge*
 - *Neutrality of FIL – adherence to the Olympic Charter*
 - *Gender equality – for legal reasons it is not possible to establish a minimum quota in voting;*
 - *"Emergency paragraph" 4.5.8 to permit appropriate responses to extraordinary events*

Dr. Ch. Krähe once again refers to the Extraordinary Congress and the resolutions made at that Congress.

- *Law and Procedure Regulations: Extension of time limit for making an appeal; this also applies to other proceedings of the Court of Arbitration*

Comments:

Mark Armstrong/GBR: Notes minor errors in the English version (1.3.1; 4.14.2)

Eirik Lundemo/NOR: Asks a question about the motion by Norway to the 2021 Congress regarding gender equality which was deferred due to comprehensive changes to statutes.

Dr. Ch. Krähe: Responds that implementation of all items was not possible due to Austrian law (principle of free choice).

Andrea van Heugten-Hátlová/NED: Was European law also reviewed?

Dr. Ch. Krähe: Yes, the principle of free choice exists everywhere.

Natalia Gart/RUS: Notes her concerns regarding the striking of paragraph 1.6.1 of the FIL statutes.

Dr. Ch. Krähe: In the opinion of an Austrian legal council, it should be removed from the FIL statutes. The Olympic Charter must be protected, and it is part of the FIL statutes.

President E. Fogelis additionally refers to 1.4.3 of the FIL statutes.

Congress resolution 02/22

The Congress resolves to vote on resolutions pertaining to FIL statutes in 2 votes.

- **Vote 1: Motion to change paragraph 4.5.8**
- **Vote 2: all other changes to the statutes**

**- 31 votes for
- 1 vote against**

A 2/3 majority is required for the following resolution:

Congress resolution 03/22

The motion related to paragraph 4.5.8 of the FIL statutes is accepted.

- 22 votes for
- 1 vote against
- 6 abstentions

Comments:

VP Th. Schwab: Notes the cost and effort associated with changing the name of the FIL.

Dr. Ch. Krähe: The name change is necessary to implement the strategic plan and to promote popular sport.

J. Leahy/USA: Why is the time period for appeals being extended?

Dr. Ch. Krähe: The time period of 2 weeks is very short; therefore, we must extend it.

A 2/3 majority is required for the following resolution:

Congress resolution 04/22

The motion for changing the FIL statutes based on the handout is accepted.

- Promoting popular sport (1.3.1)
- FIL name change in German and French
- 1.5.1 is deleted / 1.4.3 adherence to the Olympic Charter remains
- Gender equality
- Law and Procedure Regulations: Time period for actions extended, including for all proceedings of the court of arbitration

- 30 votes for
- 0 votes against
- 0 abstentions

- **Motion 2** (motion by Russia)

N. Gart/RUS withdraws this motion, because the changes are already embedded in FIL statutes based on the change to statutes.

9.2 Motions related to the IRO

All existing IRO motions were approved by at least a 2/3 majority of the authorized expert commission, and motions that need to be handled by the Executive Board were supported unanimously by the Executive Board which recommended that the Congress approve them.

Artificial Track (Motions 1-32)

Sport area

VP C. Del Negro presents the motions of the Sport Commission.

- Motion 1 (pertaining to § 2)
- Motions 2-11 (pertaining to § 3)
- Motions 20-21 (pertaining to § 7 approved by the Executive Board)
- Motions 22-23 (pertaining to § 8)
- Motions 24-26 (pertaining to § 10)

Comments on motion no. 25:

B. Semmler-Dzösch comments and recommends modifying the motion.

VP C. DelNegro: This motion will be voted upon tomorrow with a new proposed change.

Congress resolution 05/22

The Congress resolves that IRO motions 1-11 and 22-26 of the Sport Commission Artificial Track are approved (with the exception of motion no. 25).

- 32 votes for, unanimous

Technical area

VP A. Zöggeler offers a brief summary of the motions by the Technical Commission.

- Motions 12-19 (pertaining to § 5)
- Motion 27 (pertaining to Supplement 1 of the IRO)
- Motions 28-32 (pertaining to Supplement 5 of the IRO)

There is a brief exchange of information on the standardization of doubles sleds.

Congress resolution 06/22

The Congress resolves that the IRO motions of the Technical Commission Artificial Track are approved.

**- 27 votes for
- 0 votes against
- 0 abstentions**

Executive Board (Motions 20-21)

VP Th. Schwab presents to the Congress two motions made by the Executive Board.

- Motion 20: Defining advertising spaces more precisely
- Motion 21: Advertising of alcoholic beverages

The English-language wording of motion 21 (advertising of alcoholic beverages) will be modified again.

Congress resolution 07/22

The Congress resolves that IRO motions 20-21 of the Executive Board are approved.

**- 31 votes for
- 1 vote against**

Natural Track (Motions 1-4)

VP P. Knauseder presents the IRO motions of the Commission Natural Track.

- Motion 1 (pertaining to § 2)
- Motion 2 (pertaining to § 3)
- Motions 3-4 (pertaining to § 5)

Congress resolution 08/22

The Congress resolves that IRO motions 1-4 of the Executive Board are approved.

- 29 votes for
- 0 votes against
- 0 abstentions

9.3 Other motions

Motion 1: Motion by Sweden

J. Ahlberg/SWE presents the motion made by SWE to the Congress.

"Acceleration of work for introducing standard sleds so that they can be put into operation before the 2025-2026 Olympic season. The last season in which nonstandardized sleds will be allowed will be the 2024-2025 season."

VP A. Zöggeler supports this motion.

Congress resolution 09/22

The Congress resolves that the IRO motion by SWE is approved.

- 17 votes for
- 4 votes against
- 5 abstentions

LUNCH BREAK**10. Finances****10.1 Approval of Annual Financial Report (April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022)**

Vice-President Harald Steyrer explains the **Annual Financial Report for 2021/22**. He informs the Congress that the FIL Control Commission met in Reichenau an der Rax on May 6-8, 2022. The report on the conducted audit was submitted to the Congress in a timely manner.

External auditing of FIL assets also took place in May 2022. The related audit report is available upon request, both in printed form and as a PDF document.

VP H. Steyrer gives the Congress the opportunity to ask questions about the annual financial report.

Congress resolution 10/22

The annual financial report for 2021/2022 is approved.

- 32 votes for, unanimous

Afterwards, **VP H. Steyrer** announces the FIL asset balance as of March 31, 2022 and thanks the members of the Executive Board and other FIL officers for their high level of financial discipline.

10.2 Approval of Proposed Budget (April 1, 2022-March 31, 2023)

VP H. Steyrer makes a request to the NFs, asking them to settle their financial obligations to FIL soon.

He explains that costs for the FIL Extraordinary Congress in April 2022 were approx. € 40,000 without any offsetting income. As a result, some existing items in the 2022/2023 budget will need to be eliminated or reduced in scope.

In his comments on the **proposed budget for 2022/2023**, **VP H. Steyrer** urgently notes that it does not allow for much leeway. In creating this budget, priority must be given to keeping net outflows, i.e., excess expenditures over revenues of 2022/2023, significantly under 5 million euros. This is absolutely necessary, because today no official correspondence has been received from the IOC yet indicating how high the total funding to FIL will be after the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. He confirms that the proposed budget for 2022/2023 as presented assures smooth operations for the entire business year 2022/2023, but all officeholders and national associations also need to make efforts towards strengthening FIL financial inflows.

VP H. Steyrer asks the Congress to approve the proposed budget for 2022/2023 as presented.

VP H. Steyrer thanks the Congress for its good cooperation over the past 26 years. He emphasizes that over the past 26 years he has always tried to manage FIL assets as optimally as possible.

Special thanks go out to honorary President J. Fendt, former General Secretary S. Romstad, former Executive Director H. Kardaetz, President E. Fogelis, and General Secretary D. Bell.

He thanks all those who have worked with him as true colleagues and friends over the past 26 years, including ML Rainer, B. Semmler-Dzösch, the entire Executive Board, Executive Director Ch. Schweiger, and the employees in the FIL office.

He appeals to the NFs to elect qualified representatives for the positions to be filled tomorrow.

He wishes the best for FIL and its members in the future.

Comments:

Eirik Lundemo/NOR: Why is the voucher program being reduced?

Executive Director Ch. Schweiger: There are a lot of expenses over which we have no control. FIL must implement savings in the future. The voucher program is currently being revised.

Congress resolution 11/22

The annual budget for 2022/2023 is approved in its proposed form.

- 32 votes for, unanimous

11. Report by the Control Commission and discharge of responsibility for the Executive Board

The chairman of the Control Commission **D. Prentice** offers information on the audit report which emphasizes the professional and diligent management of finances by VP H. Steyrer.

He thanks everyone for their excellent cooperation and makes a motion to the Congress to give discharge to the Vice-President of Finance, the Presidium, and the entire Executive Board.

Management of our resources by the President and the Executive Board is very impressive and is handled in the best interests of athletes, national federations, the tracks, and organizers. The most gold really does come from the sport itself. The finances are very well controlled and organized.

Congress resolution 12/22

The FIL Executive Board is given discharge.

- 32 votes for, unanimous

12. Establishment of member contributions

Congress resolution 13/22

The annual membership fee is set at € 100.00 as previously.

- 32 votes for, unanimous

13. Information from the Olympic Committee on the 2026 Olympic Winter Games regarding preparations for luge events in Milan-Cortina/ITA

A video presentation is played for the Congress.

F. Bazzanello of MICO gives a presentation about the 2026 Olympic Winter Games in Milan-Cortina. He introduces the MICO organization and emphasizes that Cortina is an important venue for the future. Brief information on track construction will follow. The precise schedule should be provided sometime in the next few weeks.

Comments:

M. Heinzlmaier/BEL: What happens if it is not possible to obtain construction approval?

F. Bazzanello/MICO: Currently, there is no official "plan B."

Athletes' representative Ch. Mazdzer: When will the final track plan be available?

F. Bazzanello/MICO: Information is still being collected, and further meetings will be held to work out the final track plan.

VP C. DelNegro: It is anticipated that FIL will have a test event when the track is completed (Spring 2025). That is why we are requesting that the budget be planned accordingly to cover the luge test event.

14. Information from the Olympic Committee on the 2024 Youth Olympic Games regarding preparations for luge events in PyeongChang/KOR

S.-J. Yang/KOR gives a presentation to the Congress with information on the 2024 Youth Olympic Games in Gangwon/KOR.

A video presentation is played for the Congress.

15. Presentation by the organizing committees for the FIL championships in 2023

There are no presentations by organizing committees for the FIL championships in 2023.

16. Awarding of FIL championships up to max. 2026:

Applicants for organizing the FIL championships up to max. 2026 are:

Artificial track:

- 2026 Juniors W.Ch. for Artificial Track: Altenberg/GER

Natural track:

- 2023 W.Ch. Natural Track: Vatra Dornei/ROU
- 2023 Juniors European Ch. Natural Track: St. Sebastian- Mariazell/AUT

16.1 Presentations by applicants (optional)

There are no presentations by applicants for organizing the FIL championships.

16.2 Vote:

Congress resolution 14/22

The Congress awards the 2026 FIL Junior W.Ch. on Artificial Track to the organizer Altenberg/GER.

- 30 votes for
- 0 votes against
- 0 abstentions

Congress resolution 15/22

The Congress awards the 2023 FIL W.Ch. on Natural Track to the Vatra Dornei/ROU.

- 30 votes for
- 0 votes against
- 0 abstentions

Congress resolution 16/22

The Congress awards the 2023 FIL Juniors European Championships on Natural Track to the organizer St. Sebastian-Mariazell/AUT.

**- 30 votes for
- 0 votes against
- 0 abstentions**

Honoring VP Harald Steyrer

President E. Fogelis and **Honorary President J. Fendt** express their thanks to **H. Steyrer** for his 26 years of service as Vice President of Finance. He was first elected to that post in 1996 at the 45th FIL Congress in Olympia, Greece.

Honorary President J. Fendt directs some personal words to VP H. Steyrer on his departure. Above all, he said he values his mutual trust, respectful interactions with others, and his expert knowledge.

On account of his many years of commendable service for the good of the FIL, **Harald Steyrer** is awarded the **FIL Honorary Membership** and the **FIL Medal of Honor in Gold with DIAMOND**.

In addition, **H. Steyrer** is presented with a gift from the FIL.

H. Steyrer offers his sincere thanks for the awards and presents. He emphasizes that he does not want to miss out on the time, and he thanks all participants for their good cooperative work over the past 26 years.

A. Strenga/LAT also gives H. Steyrer a present on behalf of the Latvian luge federation.

President E. Fogelis closes the first day of the advisory meeting and wishes all Congress participants a pleasant afternoon and evening.

Sunday, June 19, 2022

9:00 am

President E. Fogelis opens the second day of the advisory meeting and welcomes all Congress participants.

Roll call of attendees and determination of voting rights: 2nd Congress day

In a roll call, the **Executive Director Ch. Schweiger** verifies those in attendance. At the time of the opening of the 2nd day of the Congress there are **31 members/NFs with a seat and a vote** in the meeting room.

Participating in the 70th FIL Congress (2nd day of the Congress on June 19, 2022) are:

31 national federations with a seat and a vote

0 provisional members

Simple majority = 16

2/3 majority = 21

17 Resolutions on the motions

17.1 Motions related to the statutes

This agenda item was already handled under agenda item 9.

17.2 Motions related to the IRO

VP C. DelNegro explains the newly formulated motion no. 25 to the Congress: *“Under advise weather forecasts the Race Director, together with the Technical Director, may shorten the start intervals, in coordination with television, to a minimum of 1,30 minutes. “*

Congress resolution 17/22

The modified motion no. 25 on the IRO for Artificial Track is approved (enclosure 3).

- 31 votes for, unanimous

17.3 Other motions

There are no other motions to be handled by the Congress.

18 Elections in accordance with the statutes

President E. Fogelis proposes to the Congress that the following persons be named members of the **election committee**:

- Dr. Ch. Krähe/GER (chairman of the Legal Committee)
- V. Vavruskova/SVK (Control Commission)
- D. Prentice/GBR (Control Commission)

No counter-proposals are made by the national federations.

Congress resolution 18/22

The election committee consists of Dr. Ch. Krähe, V. Vavruskova, and D. Prentice.

- 31 votes for, unanimous

IND is now in attendance at the Congress, and there are now **32 members/NFs with a seat and a vote** in the meeting room.

Participating in the 70th FIL Congress (2nd day of the Congress on June 19, 2022) are:

32 national federations with a seat and a vote
0 provisional members

Simple majority = 17

2/3 majority = 22

President E. Fogelis thanks the previous Executive Board for their trusting cooperation and the NFs for their support of his work. He hands over control of the Congress to the election committee.

The election committee chose **Dr. Ch. Krähe** to be its chief election official.

Dr. Ch. Krähe informs the Congress that it is necessary to obtain a written declaration from those candidates who are not in attendance which confirms that they accept the position if elected.

Each candidate has the opportunity to make a presentation to the Congress (3 minutes).

At the recommendation of the chief election official, the election for positions with just one candidate will be conducted by acclamation. If there are multiple candidates for an elected position, then ballot sheets will be distributed and collected in a ballot box.

18.1 Members of the Executive Board

– President

Einars Fogelis/LAT is re-elected FIL President (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

– General Secretary

Dwight Bell/USA is re-elected Secretary General (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

– Vice President of Finance

Philipp Trattner/AUT is re-elected VP of Finance (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

– Vice President for Marketing

Thomas Schwab/GER is re-elected VP for Marketing (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

– Vice President for Sport Artificial Track

Claire DeNegro/USA is re-elected VP for Sport Artificial Track (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

– Vice President for Technical Affairs Artificial Track

Armin Zöggeler/ITA is re-elected VP for Technical Affairs Artificial Track (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

– Vice-President for Natural Track

There are three candidates:

- Leander Moroder/ITA
- Geoff Balme/NZL
- Sorin Buta/ROU

Both Sorin Buta/ROU and Leander Moroder/ITA present their ideas and visions for the sport of Natural Track A video presentation by G. Balme is played. **Dr. Ch. Krähe** informs the Congress that this election requires a simple majority (50% +1) to be considered elected.

The results of the first round of voting, which was conducted by secret ballot, are:

- Leander Moroder/ITA	11 votes
- Geoff Balme/NZL	5 votes
- Sorin Buta/ROU	16 votes

The results of the first round of voting, which was conducted by secret ballot, are:

- Leander Moroder/ITA	12 votes
- Sorin Buta/ROU	20 votes

Therefore, Sorin Buta/ROU is elected the new VP for Natural Track.

– **Other Executive Board members (2)**

There are eight candidates:

- Markus Prock/AUT
- Alex Gough/CAN
- Harald Rolfsen/NOR
- Geoff Balme/NZL (*unless elected "Vice-President for Natural Track"*)
- ~~Sorin Buta/ROU (*unless elected "Vice-President for Natural Track"*)~~
- Sorina Ticu/ROU
- Natalia Gart/RUS
- Taras Hartsula/UKR

The seven remaining candidates take the opportunity to briefly introduce themselves to the delegates.

The results of the first round of voting (each NF could mark two persons on the ballot):

- Markus Prock/AUT	7 votes
- Alex Gough/CAN	2 votes
- Harald Rolfsen/NOR	5 votes
- Geoff Balme/NZL	2 votes
- Sorina Ticu/ROU	6 votes
- Natalia Gart/RUS	6 votes
- Taras Hartsula/UKR	6 votes

The last candidates received the same number of votes, so once again a second round of voting had to be conducted.

The election committee therefore proposes a new method which is described under 8.3. of the FIL statutes:

- Due to the fact that there are so many candidates on the ballot, a relative majority should be sufficient to be elected in the future.
- All candidates are included in the first round of voting for other members.
- 1st round of voting for the first other member (relative majority)
- 2nd round of voting for the second other member (relative majority)

Congress resolution 19/22

The voting procedure for electing the other members should, in the future, be conducted by relative majority.

- 24 votes for
- 4 votes against
- 1 abstention

VP C. DelNegro asks whether it is possible to modify the election procedure during the election. **Dr. Ch. Krähe** confirms this, because it is possible according to the statutes and the Congress approved it.

The results of the first round of voting (each NF could vote for one person):

- **Markus Prock/AUT** **8 votes**
- **Alex Gough/CAN** **3 votes**
- **Harald Rolfsen/NOR** **4 votes**
- **Geoff Balme/NZL** **1 votes**
- **Sorina Ticu/ROU** **9 votes, elected**
- **Natalia Gart/RUS** **4 votes**
- **Taras Hartsula/UKR** **3 votes**

The results of the second round of voting (each NF could vote for one person):

- **Markus Prock/AUT** **12 votes, elected**
- **Alex Gough/CAN** **5 votes**
- **Harald Rolfsen/NOR** **5 votes**
- **Geoff Balme/NZL** **2 votes**
- **Natalia Gart/RUS** **5 votes**
- **Taras Hartsula/UKR** **3 votes**

Therefore, the following persons are elected as other members of the Executive Board in a secret ballot:

- **Sorina Ticu/ROU**
- **Markus Prock/AUT**

– **Vice President for Asia**

Jieun Park/KOR is re-elected Vice-President for Asia (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

– **Vice President for Australia/Oceania**

Geoff Balme/NZL is re-elected Vice President for Australia/Oceania (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

All elected members of the Executive Board thank the delegates for the trust they have placed in them, and they declare their readiness to make a contribution to the continued development of the international sport of luge with great commitment over the next four years.

18.2 Members of the three expert commissions

The delegates are in agreement with the proposal by the chief election official, whereby in the election of members for the three expert commissions, the three candidates with the most votes are considered elected (each NF can vote for up to three persons).

– **Sport Commission Artificial Track**

There are nine candidates:

- Christian Eigentler/AUT (8)
- Robert Fegg/CAN (8)

- Norbert Loch/GER (15)
- Klaus Kofler/ITA (4)
- Wolfgang Staudinger/KOR (15)
- Atis Strenga/LAT(15)
- Artemy Rodionov/RUS (4)
- Taras Hartsula/UKR (8)
- Mark Grimmette/USA (8)

**Voting takes place within the Sport Commission Artificial Track by secret ballot, and the following are elected:
Norbert Loch/GER (15); Wolfgang Staudinger/KOR (15); Atis Strenga/LAT (15)**

– **Technical Commission Artificial Track**

There are eleven candidates:

- Georg Hackl/AUT (9)
- Peter Penz/AUT (7)
- Duncan Kennedy/CAN (9)
- Christian Thurner/GER (11)
- Oswald Haselrieder/ITA (5)
- Eliza Tiruma/LAT (10)
- Inars Kivlenieks/LAT (5)
- Marek Skowronski/POL (12)
- Mikhail Kuzmich/RUS (3)
- Oleh Zherebetsky/UKR (4)
- Lubomir Mick/USA (13)

**Voting takes place within the Commission for Technical Affairs Artificial Track by secret ballot, and the following persons are elected:
Lubomir Mick/USA (13); Marek Skowronski/POL (12); Christian Thurner/GER (11)**

– **Commission Natural Track**

There are six candidates:

- Gerald Kammerlander/AUT (17)
- Chris Wightman/CAN (8)
- Thomas Niemetz/GER (16)
- Armin Niedermair/ITA (20)
- Geoff Balme/NZL (14)
- Andrei Knyr/RUS (9)

**Voting takes place within the Commission Natural Track by secret ballot, and the following persons are elected:
Armin Niedermair/ITA (20); Gerald Kammerlander/AUT (17); Thomas Niemetz/GER (16)**

18.3 Substitute member of the Control Commission

Günther Beck/LIE is retiring from the Control Commission as part of a regular rotation. In accordance with the statutes, the previous substitute members **Vlasta**

Vavruskova/CZE and Derek Prentice/GBR automatically become ordinary members.

There is one candidate for the election of a substitute member of the Control Commission:

- Günther Beck/LIE

Günther Beck/LIE is elected substitute member of the Control Commission (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

18.4 Court of arbitration

Chief election official Dr. Ch. Krähe informs the delegates of the candidates:

- Ben Heijmeijer/NED as Chairman
- Dr. Richard Moser/ITA as Vice-Chairman
- Dr. Michael Bielowski/AUT as member
- Gennady Rodionov/RUS as member
- Erin Warren/USA as member
- Michal Kuliński/POL as member

Ben Heijmeijer/NED is elected Chairman of the Court of Arbitration (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

Dr. Richard Moser/ITA is elected Vice Chairman of the Court of Arbitration (without opposing candidate) by acclamation.

A relative majority applies to the election of members of the Court of Arbitration. Up to 3 candidates may be elected.

Elected as members of the Court of Arbitration are:

- Dr. Michael Bielowski/AUT	31 votes	as member
- Michal Kuliński/POL	24 votes	as member
- Erin Warren/USA	21 votes	as member

Gennady Rodionov/RUS received 15 votes.

18.5 FIL Committee for Legal Affairs = FIL Ethics Commission

Honorary President J. Fendt is elected substitute member of the Election Commission.

Chief election official Dr. Ch. Krähe yields the chair for this election to **FIL Honorary President J. Fendt**.

There are four candidates:

- Dr. Christian Krähe/GER
- Dr. Andreas Ruetz/AUT
- Klavs Vasks/LAT
- Alexander Shakhnazarov/RUS – No written confirmation was received from Alexander Shakhnazarov that he would accept the position if elected, even though the Russian federation was expressly given the opportunity to submit a

declaration of consent from the candidate indicating his acceptance of the position. Such a declaration was never received, and no explanation was given regarding why a declaration of consent was not submitted. Therefore, his candidature is not allowed according to the statutes.

**- Dr. Christian Krähe/GER
- Dr. Andreas Ruetz/AUT
- Klavs Vasks/LAT
are unanimously elected by acclamation.**

18.6 FIL Ethics Officer

Chief election official Dr. Ch. Krähe informs the delegates that there is only one candidate (Dr. Jochen Fritzweiler/GER) for this position.

Dr. Jochen Fritzweiler /GER introduces himself to the Congress.

Dr. Jochen Fritzweiler/GER is elected (without opposing candidate) as the new FIL Ethics Officer by acclamation.

18.7 Members of the Youth/Development Commission Artificial Track

The delegates agree with the proposal by the chief election official, whereby in electing members for the Youth/Development Commission, the two candidates with the most votes are considered elected (each NF can vote for up to two persons).

There are seven candidates:

- Sandra Lembert/AUT (12)
- Hans-Jürgen Köhne/GER (15)
- Mark Hatton/GBR (18)
- Zintis Saicans/LAT (1)
- Dmitry Kasatkin/RUS (2)
- Anders Söderberg/SWE (7)
- Zianibeth Shattuck-Owen/USA (5)

A secret ballot is conducted for the election of members of the Commission Youth/Development:

Mark Hatton/GBR (18); Hans-Jürgen Köhne/GER (15)

The newly elected Executive Board members take their places on the stage.

19 Selection of the Congress venue for 2024

The Congress transfers to the Executive Board the right to change the 2023 Congress venue (currently: Lviv/UKR) at an Executive Board meeting in Fall 2022. There are no applications yet for organizing the 72nd FIL Congress in 2024.

20 Miscellaneous

The General Secretary of the Austrian luge federation, Helmut Ruetz/AUT, is awarded a present, and he also accepts a present for Sandra Mariner/AUT. These two persons deserve a special thanks for their help in organizing this Congress.

President E. Fogelis expresses his thanks for the discipline of all Congress participants which made it possible to hold this FIL Congress. He wishes everyone a good start in the new season and, above all, good health.

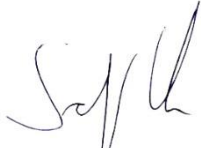
He thanks all Congress participants, A. Fischer, and the FIL office for its excellent organization, and the interpreters for their excellent work. Flower bouquets are given to A. Fischer, B. Wegscheider, and D. Springl, and presents are given to the interpreters.

President E. Fogelis officially closes the 70th FIL Congress in Hall in Tirol/AUT.

We will see you again at the 71st FIL Congress in 2023!

Minutes created by: Diana Springl/FIL Office

For the contents of the minutes:



Christoph Schweiger
Executive Director of FIL

President



Einars Fogelis

3 enclosures

70th FIL Congress
Hall in Tirol
18th June 2022

Dear friends and colleagues,

When we adopted our SLIDE-2026 strategy two years ago, we spoke clearly about our goals in the context of global activities to develop luge sport around the world. We were clearly aware that the world was changing rapidly - generations, technology, behavior. In the virtual world, our habits change every day. Faster than we are sometimes able to integrate it all into our daily lives.

We need to lead sport to people and people to sport.

We have a clear process for planning our strategy and a clear vision for putting it into practice.

I have devoted both, my time and my efforts, together with you, into planning. But it must be said that the real "World Order" over the past years has been and still is a serious challenge in achieving the goals of our Federation.

The public was hit by the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. It made us look at the existing order differently. Introduced new regulated daily life, additional strength to PR sessions and searching for solutions to develop our new way of life. Especially, when it came to our overall health and safety.

Under these circumstances, we paved the qualifying path in preparation for the Olympic Games - Beijing 2022. This, once-in-four-year high in two seasons, was achieved thanks to united team work - 106 of our athletes achieved their goals in the world's largest sports event - the Olympic Games. Of course, sports can be cruel, but also beautiful and interesting. Probably not everyone from Beijing returned with full satisfaction, but together we - athletes, coaches, organizers, FIL team, all our supporters - managed to give a great performance to fans from all over the world. We demonstrated that we are not only the fastest sport on ice, but also one of the most intriguing. This is clearly shown by the growing number on TV and social media.

We could certainly continue on this positive note. Especially at the end of the Olympic Games, at the invitation of IOC President Thomas Bach to the political leaders of the countries, clearly outlining our mission in relation to sport and the Olympic spirit – “Give peace a chance”

Life has introduced new adjustments to the order of our globe since February 24, when a brutal military attack in Ukraine was launched under the leadership of Russia's political leaders. It is clear that what has happened has affected more than just the current political and economic order in the world's regions. This war has affected and is affecting the international sports movement. It cannot be questioned or ignored. Our Federation, its Board, following its conscience, as well as our colleagues in other sports organizations, have clearly expressed our opposition to such aggression, in clear solidarity with the Ukrainian people, with all democratic people around the world and, in particular, with our colleagues at the Ukrainian Federation. Thank you to everyone who provided both moral and material support. This once again demonstrates the strength and cohesion of our Federation outside the sports arenas.

FIL expressed a clear position on the future organizational policy of the competition, thinking about a safe future of our sport, its people and events. Sports relevance in society today has grown so much that we cannot escape our duty and our responsibility. A unifying factor for all of us – sports movement has always built bridges between different worldviews, always standing for peace. It is clear today that there is no place among us for those who support aggression in any form and glorify war.

After the election, this will be the first job of the new FIL Ethics Commission. To address with full sternness those individuals whose activities we have seen on the mass and social media recently, supporting violence and deviating from the basic principles and values of sport.

Over the past period, we have worked very intensively with the FIL Legal Commission and the additional legal forces involved, to prepare the amendments and additions to the FIL Statutes. They were previously submitted to you, in order to respond

as quickly and efficiently as possible to our members and to implement our SLIDE -2026” Objectives.

We are responsible for the security of our sport and for the protection and safe development of our sporting members at the start of the new Olympic cycle.

We are currently actively working with the IOC and the organizing committee "Milano - Cortina 2026" and the joint cooperation of seven international winter sports federations (AIOWF) which is very important in this work. Issues that affect us all are actively discussed with our colleagues –

- Future for Olympic Games, Agenda 2020+5
- Quotas for participants and development for our sports;
- Obligations and rights of the IF;
- Funding cooperation between IF AND IOC;
- Policy in the media space, in particular the expansion of TV and live streaming.

It is in this area that a very heavy workload falls on the shoulders of my colleagues in FIL Presidium Dwight Bell, Harald Steyrer, Christoph Schweiger and I would like to thank them very much for the excellent teamwork.

Strategically, it is very important for us to strengthen and expand our presence in the Olympic Artificial Track program. It is currently undergoing intensive work on gender equality, while presenting possible new disciplines that would allow our athletes to compete not only for new sets of medals, but also for additional time in the media room. In the coming days, we will receive IOC approval for the new Olympic program. I hope that our sport will have addition by at least one set of medals at the world's largest sports event. At the same time, after receiving signals about the possible support from Milano-Cortina 2026, we are resuming the discussion with my IOC colleagues, sending all the necessary documentation regarding the Natural Track and the venue for the Olympic Games.

In this section, seeing our strategy, we must definitely take the next steps in the direction of Public Sledging. Increasing the number of people involved, while thinking about the attractiveness of sports. Accessibility among young people is vital. Together with the IBSF and the IBU, we launched research into e-sports, which, in a balanced way, is another tool for attracting audiences, but not a substitute for real sports.

I am pleased that the set course on WADA policy has been adhered to. In the context of the ITA, our Federation is undergoing a thorough audit of this activity. I thank all the National Federations for their professional work in this field. We have not had any positive cases in recent years, and especially at the Olympics! I wish that the principles of fair play will continue to be held in such high regard!

One of the most important points of our support is to ensure a stable income flow through our company partners IOC, event organizers, TV contracts signed SPORT-A, Olympic Channel, our supporters and sponsors Hargassner, Eberspächer, BMW, Infront, RGS, UVEX. Without you, dear friends, we would not have achieved so much. We would not be able to shape our future development.

In order to balance everything with our needs and annual budget, a big thank you goes to our colleagues in FIL Executive Board. Thanks to their work, we have created a solid foundation for support programs in preparation for the next Olympic period.

Today, however, the venue Cortina, work planning schedules at our disposal are a concern. I hope that the recent involvement and active contribution of our colleagues on the part of the Milan Cortina Organization Committee will bring positive results in the near future. For our part, we have provided our partners with all the necessary information to ensure the long-term sustainability and legacy plan of this Olympic facility. It is strategically important for our federation to acquire another sports facility in central Europe, enabling it to attract additional young people, especially from nearby regions. We are seeing the success of such projects on the track commissioned last year in Bludenz (Austria). Certainly, the involvement of our federation in this project is highly valued.

A very important part of this plan are our development programs. They will give an actual support to you - NF's. They are being actively developed in the new work cycle in cooperation with the International Olympic Committee. I am convinced that this cooperation will succeed at the forthcoming Youth Olympics in Gangwon 2024 Korea.

At Commissions meetings, we have taken a broad step in this direction by discussing how to make sport more available, more financially accessible and more convincing, following our strategy "Slide 2026"

I am certain that the reports, prepared by the FIL commissions and working groups, will be a good basis for the development of our sport, especially in terms of our place and role in the Olympic Movement.

I hope that, once life becomes active again, we will be able to become more involved in regional programs. The development there has been severely restricted in the last two years due to circumstances beyond our control. It is very important for us to keep all the regions active, including the great and interesting sports complex Yanjing, where the Beijing 2022 Olympic Games were held until recently.

Together we can achieve a lot in this difficult world. We need to show a strong stance in the interests of sport and society. Only together we can learn the right lessons for the future.

We can clearly see that sport is not always and everywhere separated from politics today, but unfortunately it is increasingly being used as a political tool. We will do our utmost to join forces for a better future society.

"Faster, higher, stronger - together"

Thank you, colleagues, for your contribution and cooperation!

Respectfully, Einars Fogelis

Thank you to each and every one of you for your contribution to a better society.



Report of the General Secretary

June 16, 2022

Dear Colleagues, as I write this report, the 70th FIL Congress is going to take place in Hall, Tyrol, Austria in just a few days. It will mark the first time that I will not be with you in person since I attended my first FIL Congress held in Albertville, France in 1989. It would of course take something extraordinary for me to miss the Congress. A few weeks ago, my wife and I had our youngest daughter get married and now our oldest daughter is getting married on the same weekend as the Congress, so I am very thankful for you all excusing my presence this weekend.

And now for my report, last year I reported that 2020-21 was perhaps the most challenging year in the history of the FIL. But little did we know, that the 2021-22 season would be even more challenging. Once again, because of Covid-19, extreme pressure was put on our entire Luge family. World Cup races were once again cancelled in North America and Asia. The international training weeks for the Beijing 2022 Games, which are essential for fairness and safety in our sport, were compressed into a three-week time frame in November of 2021, not long before the Olympic competition in February of 2022. This presented immense challenges to the FIL and the National Federations due to the covid restrictions present in China. The FIL implemented the use of a charter flight to assist with the travel logistics. As the FIL was one of the first Winter International Federations to conduct such training and a world cup race, we were testing all the covid protocols that were put in place by Beijing 2022 and the IOC, this proved to be very challenging and a real strain on all our athletes, coaches, officials, and stakeholders. And then, with over 30 sled boxes being held up leaving China, the FIL family had the unprecedented challenge, of having to share sleds and equipment between the national federations and our officials had to get creative to execute training and races. This cooperation between teams highlighted the very definition of sportsmanship and fair play.

The pressure continued on our Luge family all the way to the Olympics as we had to make do with protocols, positive covid tests limited participation from key members of

our family leading up to and including the Olympic competition, and a compressed Olympic qualification process.

But despite all these challenges, the athletes, coaches, officials, and FIL staff persevered, driven by a passion for our sport. By all accounts the Beijing 2022 Olympic Luge competition was successfully held without incident and with a lot of exciting competition. On behalf of the FIL, I want to thank you all for this amazing achievement. Congratulations to all and a sincere thanks from the FIL. The season concluded with the Sepp Benz Memorial Race in St. Moritz, Switzerland. In addition to honoring our dear friend and colleague, Sepp Benz, this race offered an opportunity for our Luge family to unwind and relax in a wonderful setting. The weather and atmosphere were superb and a nice way to end the season in a positive way. Thanks to Swiss Sliding for hosting us.

Only a few days after the Beijing 2022 closing ceremonies, we were presented yet another challenge as the government of Russian invaded the sovereign country of Ukraine. The human suffering and destruction being imposed on Ukraine by Russia is incomprehensible. When the invasion began, the FIL Executive Board moved swiftly and for purposes of safety and security, cancelled the Natural Track Luge world cup race in Moscow and got all teams and personnel out of Russia as soon as possible. A special thanks to Executive Director, Christoph Schweiger for leading this effort. Throughout the sporting world, all International Federations are grappling with how best to respond to this situation from a human suffering, safety, and security perspective. As was decided by the FIL Executive Board, the FIL condemns this invasion in the strongest terms, and the FIL stands in solidarity with our friends in Ukraine.

I want to also thank our partners at the IOC for standing by us during this challenging season. The financial support and full complement of support services from the IOC was a huge help to us this season.

With the leadership of President Fogelis, the FIL continues to implement the FIL's strategic plan-Slide 2026 which was approved by the Congress last year. The FIL has hired a full-time Development Director to assist our national federations as well as help develop and coordinate public sledding activities. Under the guidance of VP of Finance-Harald Steyrer, we have now hired a full-time accounting manager that will be stationed in the FIL head office. Steve Harris has now completed a rigorous curriculum with the IOC and will graduate in September and will become the FIL Safeguard Officer. Thanks to Steve for agreeing to serve us in this important role. To further the FIL's commitment to gender equality, Erin Warren has been appointed the Chair the FIL Gender Equality and Women in Leadership Working Group. These are just a few examples of the new steps being taken by the FIL to grow and strengthen our organization for the future.

Speaking of the future, preparations are already underway for the 2024 Gangwon Youth Olympic Games, where Luge will be featured on the PyeongChang track. The FIL is also turning its attention to the Milano-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games. A new track is planned to replace the historic track that was built over 100 years ago and used for

the 1956 Olympics. The Town of Cortina d'Ampezzo and the Veneto Region are teaming up to build and maintain this new track. The FIL supports this track as it will become a core long term facility for many FIL sanctioned events and also a national sliding center for the Italian program. As the timeframe to build this new track has compressed, it will be essential that the officials in Italy move forward as soon as possible for it to be completed in time for official training and pre-Olympic activities. The FIL is getting deeply involved in assisting our partners in Italy along with our friends at the IBSF.

The FIL has also made an application to the IOC to add Women's Doubles Luge to the program in 2026 to reach gender equality and allow women to compete in this exciting event. Last year, at the FIL Congress, a decision was made to not make an application for Natural Track Luge based on the IOC Executive Board resolution limiting new events to existing venues and no additional athlete quota for 2026. But with the encouragement of key stakeholders, including South Tyrol and Italian sports officials, the FIL also applied to add Natural Track Luge to the 2026 program. A decision will be made by the IOC Executive Board on these applications in July.

I want to thank all of you for allowing me the honor to serve you and the FIL as General Secretary. We have faced the challenges of the past several years together. I wanted also to thank President Einars Fogelis for his leadership this past year and his focus on implementing Slide 2026. Thanks also to the FIL Executive Board and Executive Director Christoph Schweiger and our entire FIL team for the hard work and dedication to the FIL. I would also like to express our appreciation for our sponsors, suppliers, TV partners, and key stakeholders.

And now, finally, I wanted to offer a very special thank you to outgoing VP of Finance, Harald Steyrer, for your decades of service and dedication to the FIL. You have earned the right to hand off the baton and enjoy retirement. We will not let you get too far away, as you will still be forever part of the FIL family.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwight Bell

General Secretary

IRO Amendment 2022



Artificial Track Natural Track

Applicant: Sport Commission

§ 10, 1.4

Motion No. 25

Old text:

1.4 Start Intervals

- Only one sled may be on the run at any one time; exception: Team Relay competition (§ 3, 6.7).
- The start leader may allow the athlete to start only if the "Track is clear" statement has been relayed to the start leader from the finish.

New text:

1.4 Start Intervals

- Only one sled may be on the run at any one time; exception: Team Relay competition (§ 3, 6.7).
- The start leader may allow the athlete to start only if the "Track is clear" statement has been relayed to the start leader from the finish.
- **Under adverse weather forecasts the Race Director, together with the Technical Director, may shorten the start intervals, in coordination with television, by 10 second increments up to a minimum of 1, 30 min.**

Reason:

The Race Director, together with the Technical Delegate, must have the ability to shorten the start intervals for the upcoming competition days to ensure a better level playing field for all participating athletes.

The number of participants of the seeded groups shall be adjusted according to the proposals of the Sport Commission meeting.

Based on the change(s), which sections are to be supplemented?

§ 3, 6.1.1