

## ECA annual report 2009

### Members:

Austria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom.

### Board:

Vice Presidents: Ramona Marshall & John Stone

Members: Romana Dworzak, Kirsi Kokkonen, Gregor Sulak

Each Board member is responsible for a committee, which reports to the Board.

The board has had 4 official meetings during 2009.

Hans Lovstrom resigned in April.

### Committees:

A new committee structure was introduced in April to increase efficiency

- **Statutes** – the committee has rewritten the statutes to reflect the current position of the organization and to give ECA the flexibility to adapt and grow. The document has been circulated and will be debated and voted on at AGM. The committee comprises 4 lawyers and will continue to sit to deal with queries and disputes on statutes or any proposed changes to statutes.
- **Judges** – the committee organized beginner judge class in Frankfurt and start working on refreshment judge class for ECA judges, which will be held in 2010. The committee start looking for new scoring program, because of technical problems at ECC 2009
- **Competition & Rules** - Rules are ready and were sent out in July. We worked on competition guidelines and collected dates of championships, nationals and internationals.
- **Membership & Development** – the committee has been working on recruiting new members for ECA as well as renewing the current ECA website. The website has been redesigned in 2009 and has a new fresh look. The updating and improvement of the pages will continue in 2010. The committee has also been in contact with new potential member countries to encourage them to join ECA. The new countries had been invited to the ECC 2009 as well as the 2010 AGM in Helsinki. Board will also continue the work on recruiting new members actively in 2010.
- **Finance** – see separate report



Following a review of ECC 2009, the Board decided to introduce two new committees.

- **Athletes** – a new committee formed in Nov to give our athletes a voice & to ensure Board are meeting their needs. There are currently 6 countries represented & their first meeting took place in Dec. A Board member attends to feed their recommendations to the Board and to ECC committee.
- **ECC** – also had its first meeting in Dec it comprises 3 Board members, the President of the Finnish organizing committee and Ingolf Neumann who is responsible for registration. Its purpose is to ensure that best practice is shared with the host to ensure delivery of the best possible competition in 2010.

### **AGM:**

The ECA AGM 2009 was held in Trieste on 7th February 2009.

The following countries attended: Austria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden and UK.

Following elections the Board comprised:

President Hans Lövström  
Vice President Ramona Marshall  
Vice President John Stone  
Romana Dworzak  
Kirsi Kokkonen  
Gregor Sulak

Due to the non-attendance of the President and Treasurer the AGM was adjourned to 3 July 2009 in Nyköping.

There the amended Rules were approved. The accounts were still unsatisfactory (see Financial Report). Provisions for choosing hosts for ECC 2010/11 were agreed.

Protocols from both meetings have been submitted to members.

### **Competition:**

The ECC/JECC was held in Nyköping, Sweden 4/5th July 2008. More than 1300 athletes attended, representing 65 clubs from 11 countries. See report previously issued for more detail.

ECC 2010 will take place in Helsinki on 10/11 July 2010.

The Board is in discussions with Germany about hosting ECC 2011.

**Administration:**

There was no proper system of administration in place. Germany offered to run a much needed secretariat, which we accepted. Our thanks to Germany for providing this service without charge was formally recorded in Nyköping.

A disappointment has been the failure to relaunch the ECA website. There was a delay obtaining passwords from Hans; thereafter pressure of other work on the appointed webmaster has led to delay. We are in talks with Germany to resolve this as a matter of urgency in the New Year.

**Conclusion:**

The unexpected resignation of the President in April left the Board with a difficult situation. It was already clear that there was no clear division of work within the Board, which was addressed. The Board now works harmoniously and we believe efficiently. We are not complacent and always remain open to suggestions for improvement.

The challenges ahead are clear – to retain ECA's identity in international Cheerleading and to increase our influence internationally; to remain the pre-eminent organization within Europe by increasing membership; and to remain the provider of the best competition in Europe.

Thanks to all those who have contributed to our work, whether in committees, at ECC 2009 or informally. Only if all members contribute to this work can we hope to meet the challenges we face.