

# THE TAIJIQUAN & QIGONG FEDERATION FOR EUROPE

## General Meeting

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2003

### **(A) Members Present**

Cornelia Gruber	Switzerland
Dan Docherty	United Kingdom
Anya Meot	France
Hakan Onum	Turkey
Paul Silverstrale	Sweden
Fernando Chadel	Spain
Jean-Luc Perot	Belgium
Helmut Oberlack	Germany
Georgi Denichin	Bulgaria

### **(B) President's Address:**

The President, Mr Dan Docherty delivered an address to the General Meeting which outlined the aims of the organisation, its past achievements and its plans for the future.

### **(C) Open Forum**

Members of the Forum were invited to express their views on the Congress Meeting just held.

Points that were discussed as follows:-

More workshops in the morning were suggested.

Bank Charges: a request was made to overcome the problem of participants incurring bank charges when paying for the event.

Advanced level workshops were suggested by the more experienced practitioners.

Longer time for workshops was suggested by some participants.

Workshops following a specific theme, in relation to each other, were suggested.

Staging workshops pertaining to the various levels of beginner's intermediate and advanced was suggested.

Two themes: following connected aspects of each discipline of Taiji & Qigong was suggested.

Each working session should have a choice of a qigong workshop

A suggestion was made of switching the times of the lectures to the afternoon or offering alternative workshops for those who did not want to attend.

The importance of having one event which everybody comes together was mentioned.

Instructors Forum: – Discussions & workshops on one theme for instructors were suggested.

A question was raised on what work the TCFE did outwith Congress/Forum and Competition. The Executive Committee indicated that in addition to events and referral service a lot went on in terms of political work.

The Executive Committee were asked if the organisation offered a referral service where they issued lists of practitioners of the various disciplines in the member countries. This was answered by pointing out the structure of our web site and how it included contact information for the members in each country that could be contacted for local information.

A question was raised regarding the threat of domination from China with respect to how they are teaching and promoting modern forms in preference to the more traditional forms which were prevalent in Europe.

**Reply:** The President replied that by becoming a larger body we will have a stronger voice to support the work that was being done in Europe.

A question was posed on the structure of the Executive Committee and how it operated to carry out the business of the TCFE.

**Reply:** The Executive Committee is elected from the membership on the basis of one country, one vote. Candidates for the positions of the Executive Committee were proposed and seconded by the members and the process of election takes place.

In order to proceed with the elections a quorum of at least 50% of voting members must be in attendance. If this is not possible then voting must take via a postal and/or email ballot of the membership.

A suggestion was made regarding the Executive Committee getting more information from the membership, on what they want the organisation to prioritise on.

**(D) Previous Meetings Minutes.**

The Secretary read out the minutes of the previous meeting.

**(E) Secretary's Report:**

We have 42 members from representing 23 countries. 21 members are paid to date. The Secretary will contact each member country to remind them to pay, informing them that they are suspended until they pay their fees.

21 members are paid to date. 9 countries are in attendance. As there is no quorum all voting will be done on the internet with the Secretary contacting the members to inform them that 30 days from the date of this meeting would be their final opportunity to lodge their votes.

The Secretary reported that, following discussions with the Executive Committee, the Web Committee were to standardise our web site to one site in html rather than the two versions we currently had, one html, one Flash version. This action would allow the web site to be updated easily, avoid errors in duplication and prevent confusion to visitors to our site.

**(F) Financial Report**

Cornelia Gruber reported on behalf of the Treasurer. She stated that the accounts were not detailed and did not provide a full picture of our financial transaction. The balance in the TCFE bank account currently stands at 5806.02 Euros.

Discussion ensued regarding the incomplete records and reference was made to the on-going problem to establishing our accounts still held in the original bank account in Utrecht. The organisation still had no communications from our previous treasurer to allow the organisation to establish our accounts prior to the transfer to a bank in Switzerland.

Aside from the problem of the two bank accounts it was also stated that organisation's current accounting system was unsatisfactory.

**(G) Elections**

Proposals for the various positions of the Executive Committee were made as follows:-

**President:**

Dan Docherty – proposed by Anya Meot – seconded by Paul Silverstrale

**Vice President:**

Helmut Oberlack – proposed by Dan Docherty – seconded by Cornelia Gruber

**Chairman:**

Georgi Denichin - proposed by Dan Docherty - seconded by Cornelia Gruber

**Vice Chairman:**

Anya Meot – proposed by Dan Docherty – seconded by Helmut Oberlack

**Treasurer**

Cornelia Gruber – proposed by Helmut Oberlack – seconded by Georgi Denichin

**Secretary**

Ronnie Robinson – proposed by Dan Docherty – seconded by Anya Meot

**Executive Committee Members**

Luigi Zanini – proposed by Helmut Oberlack – seconded by Dan Docherty

Zuzana Sebkova – proposed by Helmut Oberlack – seconded by Fernando Chedel

Marianne Plouvier – proposed by Anya Meot – seconded by Dan Docherty

Jean-Luc Perot – proposed by Cornelia Gruber – seconded by Dan Docherty

**Financial Committee:**

It is a requirement of the statutes that the TCFE has a Financial Committee to audit the accounts maintained by the Treasurer to this end proposals for the Financial Committee were as follows:

Karen Limb – proposed by Dan Docherty – seconded by Georgi Denichin

Rassamy Rodsphon – proposed by Anya Meot – seconded by Dan Docherty

**(H) Member's Fee**

The Executive Committee proposed to change **Article 7** of the statutes from:

*“The members are obligated to pay a yearly contribution, the amount of which will be determined by the general meeting. In cases of the yearly contribution not being paid in full within sixty days of acquiring membership, the executive committee may suspend that member.”*

To:-

*“New Members will commence membership on payment of their fees. Renewals must be paid by March 1<sup>st</sup> on the following year. Failure to pay will result in suspension and a cessation of the benefits of membership.”*

This proposal would be presented to the General Meeting for voting for changes in the Statutes.

The Executive Committee proposed to increase the minimum annual fee from €30 to €50. this change would be presented to the Executive Committee and will be voted on by the

members.

## **(I) Statutes**

A number of changes to the statutes were proposed:-

### **Article 9.2**

Each Executive Committee Member serves a maximum term of three years after his election in accordance to a schedule created by the Executive Committee.

Proposed change no 1

Dan Docherty proposed that it should be changed to read as,

*“Each Executive Committee Member to serve for 2- 3 years before re-election.”*

This motion was seconded by Anya Meot

Helmut Oberlack proposed that it should be changed to read,

*“Each Executive Committee Member serves for four congresses and can be re-elected if there are no other candidates.”*

This motion was seconded by Cornelia Gruber.

### **Article 7**

Georgi Denichin proposed the following amendment to **Article 7**

*“The members are obligated to pay a yearly contribution, the amount of which will be determined by the general meeting. In cases of the yearly contribution not being paid in full within sixty days of acquiring membership, the executive committee may suspend that member.”*

To:-

*“New Members will commence membership on payment of their fees. Renewals must be paid by March 1<sup>st</sup> on the following year. Failure to pay will result in suspension and a cessation of the benefits of membership.”*

This proposed amendment was seconded by Dan Docherty.

The proposed amendments would be put to the members for voting, by the Secretary and

votes must be received within 30 days from the date of the Congress/Forum (12.07.03)

**(J) Any Other Business**

**Future events:**

**TCFE Competition**

The next TCFE competition will take place in Russia in 2004. Dan Docherty will travel to meet representatives of the Russian Federations to discuss the location (either Moscow or St Petersburg) and planning for the event.

**2005 Congress Forum**

Proposals for the 2005 Congress/Forum are invited for submission and must be received by 10<sup>th</sup> December 2003 and the final votes for the choice of location must be placed by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2004.