



ALL OF BILLIARDS

The President of the World Confederation of Billiards Sports (WCBS), Jörgen Sandman, announced in a letter to the Olympic Movement that a decision taken by the WCBS board to declare its Snooker component temporarily vacant and to replace two of its officers was upheld by the Lausanne-based Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS).

The award by the Sole CAS Arbitrator, Judge Deon Van Zyl, being final, the WCBS will again be able to concentrate its efforts on the work for and on behalf of all billiards sports. On March 31 and April 1, 2004, the WCBS will host its second World Billiards Congress in Las Vegas, USA. The WCBS Extraordinary General Assembly, scheduled concurrently with the Congress, will decide over the acceptance of a new constitution. The proposed constitution offers both amateur and professional Snooker to become direct and independent members of the WCBS.



WORLD GAMES WATCH



The World Air Games (WAG), a large-scale international event made up of competitions in all air sports, were launched by the World Air Sports Federation, FAI, in the mid-nineties. Their first edition took place in September 1997 at various locations throughout Turkey, involved 3,000 athletes and officials, and united elite competitions in ten air sports: from aerobatics to skydiving. 2001 saw their second edition staged at different venues in southern Spain, with a participation exceeding that of 1997 by 25%.

Following WAG 2001, the FAI WAG Coordinating Committee set out to refine the initial concept further, consolidating competitions at fewer locations, improving the contests' public and television appeal, and scaling the overall event down to a more manageable size for future WAG.

The bidding process for WAG 2005 started in January of last year. FAI was able to narrow the choice for a host down to two: Malaysia and Poland. But during its meeting held on January 26/27 in Lausanne the FAI board decided not to continue with the selection procedures for a 2005 target. The board deemed the time remaining to mid-2005 WAG dates insufficient to resolve the organizational problems which had been identified. The decision did not in any way denote a lack of confidence in the two bidding nations. Both have been congratulated on the work they put into their candidacies and invited to consider resubmitting their bids for future years.

FAI - after consultation with its air sport commissions - will issue a new invitation to bid for the third WAG edition in 2006 or 2007. FAI will have parachuting and skydiving events on the official sports program of The World Games 2005.



SURF IS UP



The Federación Ecuatoriana de Surf (FES), the International Surfing Association's National Governing Body for surfing and bodyboarding in Ecuador, has been awarded the rights to host and organize the 20th Edition of the ISA World Surfing Games 2004 in Salinas, Ecuador, in March 2004.

The games will take place on the beaches of the Ecuadorian Air Force in Salinas from March 19th - 28th, 2004. The event will determine the world's top surfing nations and award individual titles in the divisions of shortboard, bodyboard and longboard.

Over twenty of the ISA's National Governing Bodies from five continents have already confirmed their attendance.

The top surfers can look forward to a great event on Ecuador's premier Pacific Coast. The FES and ISA officials are certain that *"the attending teams and visitors will take home some unforgettable experiences from this historical event that will be part of their lives forever"*.



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