

# Minutes of WFNMC Executive Meeting (Part 2)

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 8am

Present in person: Kiril Bankov (KB) (President), Krzysztof Ciesielski (KC), Sergey Dorichenko (SD), Alexander Soifer (AS), Maria Losada (ML), David Crawford (DC)

Present online: Robert Geretschläger (RG), Maria Falk de Losada (MFL)

Absent: Peter Taylor, Petar Kenderov

1. Follow on from Meeting (Part 1): Borislav Lazarov has accepted the nomination to be one of the representatives for Europe. SD has agreed to a more active role with the Journal.

2. WFNMC 10: A proposal has been received offering to host the 2026 WFNMC conference in Singapore. KB expressed some mild concern as no-one on the Executive is closely involved with the bid. RG said that he knows both named organisers well from the Kangaroo and is in regular contact with them. The discussion concluded with agreement to accept the bid in principle, although there were still details to be finalised. KB will announce the proposal at the General Meeting on Sunday.

3. Membership of the Federation: Peter Taylor had previously circulated an e-mail indicating that those who were on the mailing list for the Journal should be considered as members. KB wondered whether those present at the conference not currently on that list should also be eligible to vote at the General Meeting. KC suggested adding all present to the mailing list to avoid that issue and added that he still has a copy of a list from WFNMC 5 and will pass this on to ensure all there are included. KB said he will update the mailing list. [Comment from DC: Do we need to be careful with GDPR regulations as these have tightened up holding personal data?]

4. Membership Exclusion: AS has previously circulated an e-mail stating his support for a motion to exclude all those who actively support the Russian invasion of Ukraine and spoke further on this issue, noting specifically that 184 Russian University Presidents had signed a declaration backing Vladimir Putin. He noted that he had issued a statement in his Journal "Geombinatorics" banning them. KC added that he thought that we should not ask people if they do support the invasion/Putin and noted that some may fear to actively oppose it/him as this would invite trouble. AS said that we should act if they actively state their support.

5. Journal: ML reviewed the happenings with the Journal since the last meeting. MFL was thanked for her spell as editor where, amongst other things, she recommended an Australian sub-editor (who no longer works at AMT). ML then said she took over and soon realised that the compilation files for issues of the Journal were not generalizable. She reported that she had created a Latex format sheet that is generalizable to enable easier compilation of the Journal. For the future, she suggested that we should follow up a country hosting the IMO by asking them to provide their National Olympiad for the Journal to give readers a feel for what happens around the world. She also suggested that it would be best if we only accepted Latex files as submissions for the Journal.

6. Future Survival: KB reminded us that 3 years ago there were some issues with communication with AMT. Peter Taylor smoothed these out and a signed agreement was put in place in which AMT agreed to a) Host the WFNMC Website, b) Provide publishing assistance with the Journal and c) Produce/procure certificates and medals for the WFNMC Awards. This agreement runs until the end of 2023 and Peter worries about whether they will continue with their support. KB said he would contact them to discuss matters and noted that WFNMC has no money so could not easily find another such supporter. DC wondered whether it we could look to find another supporter to help with the certificates and medals as that is the least technical part. AS noted that UKMT had provided some financial support in the past. DC agreed that had been the case but admitted that he did not know if that was still true and that changes in the UKMT Office staff might have meant this has been lost. RG asked if Peter could be asked to contact AMT and ask if they would be willing to extend the arrangement and to formally agree this.

7. AOB:

a) AS said he was happy with the statement regarding Ukraine but wondered whether WFNMC should be content to follow the approaches of bodies to which we are affiliated such as ICME and IMU or have our own voice. He gave a long list of potential issues of following.

b) KB asked for advice regarding voting at the General Assembly. AS explained that in previous years a “slate” of nominations was presented by the Executive but that anyone could nominate any additional names. If there were no additions (and history suggested this was not likely), the “slate” could then be voted on as one.

D. Crawford

(Secretary)