



**Kandersteg**  
International  
Scout Centre

# General Assembly 2021 Minutes

Sunday, 26 September 2021

Online

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Online**

**Chair – Aidan Jones**

In attendance:

**90 individual members / organisations**

Due to the fact that the meeting was held online, the number varied during the General Assembly

Minutes by Eliane Baumann

# 1. Welcome and opening

On Sunday, 26.09.2021 at 10.00 a.m. Aidan Jones (AJ), Chairman of the Association Kandersteg International Scout Centre welcomes all present.

He explains that the GA will be held mainly in English. Members are invited to ask questions via the Q&A function in case of communication problems. If a member requests to speak, this can be emphasised using the "raised hand function".

The minutes will be taken in German and subsequently translated into English. The German version is considered the official document.

At 10.05 a.m. AJ officially opens the General Assembly.

AJ welcomes the honorary members present: Luc Panissod and Marc Lombard.

A minute's silence is held to remember the members who have died since the last GA, especially John Beresford (Honorary Member) and Kent Clayburn (Life Member).

The following members were excused by name: Pierre Bodineau (former President of the Association), Walter Hostetter (Honorary Member) and Yvonne Hostetter.

## 2 Election of the Tellers

The Executive Committee proposes Lieveke van Vugt and Maya Levine as Tellers.

**The Tellers were elected with 67 votes, 2 abstentions and 0 votes against.**

## 3 Approval of the Agenda and explanation about Rules of Procedure

AJ presented the agenda for the GA.

Wouter Zilverberg: Asks whether it can be checked whether NSO members have received the invitation correctly.

AJ: Declares that the NSOs have received the invitation and that three NSOs are attending.

**The Agenda is adopted with 71 votes in favour, 1 abstention and 0 against.**

- Resolutions, recommendations and amendments received.

No motions, recommendations or amendment slips were received from Members. AJ informs the GA that the Committee has three proposed additional amendments to the Statutes.

- The explanation and approval of the online voting procedure.

Voting Procedure: Voting at the meeting will take place online. A voting window will appear during the voting period and a countdown will be made verbally. The results will then be announced verbally and published. Proxy votes are permitted and have been communicated in advance.

Special: To amend the statutes, a majority of both the votes of the individual members and a majority of the NSOs is required.

## 4 Minutes of the General Assembly 2020

The 2020 meeting minutes were sent out online in advance and require approval.

**The 2020 meeting minutes were approved with 63 votes in favour, 9 abstentions and 0 votes against.**

## 5 Proposed changes to the Statutes

On Saturday, 25.09.2021, the committee met and came to the following proposed changes based on the notary's comment:

- Article 1: Change of name of the association "Internationales Pfadfinderzentrum Kandersteg" to "Internationales Pfadizentrum Kandersteg". On the advice of the notary, the Committee proposes not to make these changes yet. The administrative consequences are not foreseeable at the moment. The Committee looks into this issue in more depth and brings it up again at a future General Assembly.

**The proposed amendment is approved with 72 votes in favour, 2 abstentions and 1 vote against.**

- Article 2: Change of name of the Foundation "Internationales Pfadfinderzentrum Kandersteg" to "Internationales Pfadizentrum Kandersteg". This change is not legally possible.

**The proposed amendment is approved with 72 votes in favour, 1 abstention and 2 votes against.**

- Article 20: Legally (new as an Association registered in the commercial register) it is necessary that the sentence reads as follows: "If the legal requirements for an ordinary or a limited audit does not exist, the association may at least carry out a voluntary audit."

**The proposed amendment was approved with 68 votes in favour, 5 abstentions and 2 votes against.**

Christoph Buschor (CB): Article 10: In future, we should offer mixed meetings (online and present) so that all members can participate. He requested a proposal of words to that effect, but it was not felt necessary.

Wouter Zilverberg (WZ): Article 9g: Why was this article deleted?

AJ: The big expenses are made by the Foundation and not by the Association.

JZ: The Association has not made any investments over 100'000 SFr. in the last 7 years.

Operational expenses (programme, food ...) over 100'000 SFr. are made in the daily routine of KISC. If this article remains, the consequence would be that the Staff would have to present all these expenses at the General Assembly.

- Amendment by Klaus Legler (KL): Article 14:
  - Old: "The World Committee, the European Committee, ...".
  - New: "The World Organisation of Scouts (WOSM), the European Committee of Scouts (WOSM) ....

**The proposed amendment was approved with 71 votes in favour, 2 abstentions and 2 votes against.**

Felipe Marqueis (FM): Article 10: The expression "rules and procedures" can cause irritation. The document "Rules of Procedures"/"Geschäftsordnung" for the conduct of the General Assembly is not meant by this.

Thomas Hirt (TH): The German version says Regeln und Prozesse and does not refer to a specific document.

Vote on the proposed amendments to the Statutes:

**The amendments to the Statutes are approved by the members with 71 votes in favour, 5 abstentions and 2 votes against.**

**The amendments to the Statutes are approved by the NSOs with 3 votes in favour, 0 abstentions and 0 votes against.**

AJ thanks for the patience of the members and the commitment of all involved in this process. The association "International Scout Centre Kandersteg" has new statutes.

## 6 Report on the achievements of the Centre since the last General Assembly

Jack Higgins (JH), the Director of KISC, informs about the following points:

- Reduced service, less staff, high flexibility was required, Berlin Opera Academy, Campervans.
- Overnight accommodation figures
- Thanks to the members for their support (membership fees, work ...)

- 20th December 2021 -> Back to full service. KISC will offer all services again.

## 7 Report from the Committee

Stefan Kesselring (SK), Chair of the Steering Committee, provides information on the Covid-19 situation:

- Many versions of protection concepts have been created and adapted
- expenditure reductions wherever possible
- new business ideas were sought
- plans for scaling down and scaling up activities.

He gives a huge thanks to Jack and the staff team!

James Zurbrügg (JZ), member of the Steering Committee, informs about the current financial situation:

- The accounts for 2019 have been approved. The approval of the 2020 figures is still pending -> May 2022
- 2020: The insurance company paid one-time SFr. 300'000.-, nevertheless we suffered a loss and a negative equity -> Thanks to the Covid laws we did not have to file for insolvency
- 2021: We received almost SFr. 500,000. - hardship aid from the state, this amount is non-refundable.
- Next steps: Revision of financial processes, budget planning, long-term financial planning.

JH and Beat Wenger (BW) provide information on the status of planning for our 2023 centenary:

- The 2023 website is online, the launch of information (overview of planned activities) also took place at the World Scout Conference and other events. Looking back and into the future will be central to the celebrations...
- We do not only want to celebrate, but the aim is to create long-term security: Financially (target: 6.5 million) and politically (make political contacts and finally get a solution to the visa problem).
- Mrs. Viola Amherd (Federal Councillor) could be persuaded to be the Chair of the patronage committee. We are very happy about this.
- Fundraising: Ambitious target of 6.5 million. Majority sought in Switzerland (Foundations) and of course from around the world. One of the most important goals: KISC to be debt-free! The fundraising brochure is available on the website and can be downloaded.

AJ thanks SK, JZ, BW and JH for their work. He is very satisfied with the work done.

## 8 General Assembly 2022

AJ: The next AGM will be held on 29 May 2022 in Kandersteg and also online. One item on the Agenda will be the elections of the Committee members.

## 9 Any other business

AJ: Mark Knippenberg, the new CEO of the World Scout Foundation, was bid farewell as co-opted committee Member at yesterday's committee meeting. We thanked him for his very valuable and supportive work for KISC.

Barbara Jost (Mayor of Kandersteg): She brings the best greetings from Kandersteg. She congratulates KISC for the work done during the special times. She wishes the centre all the best for the future and Kandersteg looks forward to many scouts in the village again.

AJ: He thanks the Members, the Committee and especially the staff team who are doing and have done an excellent job.

## 10 Closing

AJ: At 12.13 p.m. AJ closed the meeting.