

THE INFLUENCE OF UIAA COMPETITION CLIMBING ON THE ELECTION OF UIAA BOARD MEMBERS AT THE UIAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2004

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Report responds to a request by a UIAA Council Member to clarify what appears to have been an attempt by the Management Committee of ICC (also known as UIAA Climbing) to influence the election of UIAA Board Members at the UIAA General Assembly (GA) 2004 (Annexe A). He was particularly concerned that

“any single group would have the ability to subvert the democratic process and use the UIAA for its own benefit”.

The Consultation Draft of this Report was circulated on 15 August 2005 to the Council and copied to the Board and ICC Management Committee Members (see Doc A2). The Report has been extended to take account of further developments.

This Report should be seen as a supplement to the *UIAA President's Report 2005*, dealing with the relevant issues in more detail, and providing some original documents (see Annexes), so that readers may form their own views.

- **Part One** starts in October 2003 when 2 members of the ICC Management Committee were beginning to identify suitable candidates for the UIAA Board 2005-08 to be elected in October 2004. It shows that:
 - By October 2004, a group of 4 candidates for Board members had been identified and the ICC Management Committee informed that these were suitable for election in *'the general interests of the UIAA'* and that there would not be room for other candidates, notably the President of ISMC (S2).
 - At the ICC Plenary Assembly on 15 October 2004, Marco Sclaris described the Management Committee support for these candidates *'based on development concerns'* and invited ICC Members to support them in the elections for the UIAA Board (S3).
 - These candidates were elected and the President of ISMC was not (S3).
 - Since April 2005 the 4 Board Members and the Vice-President have used their majority of 5 to vote through several decisions for which they had no mandate from the GA2004, notably to make commitments to relocate the office, dismiss key staff, and propose that the UIAA be split into 3, with no Council (S4). And
 - The Annual Report by the Board of UIAA Climbing 2005 claimed that there is *'hate'* within the UIAA against the sport of competition climbing. Although they could produce no evidence, they refused to amend it (S6).
- **Part Two** discusses how to make progress on issues now arising in relation to (1) the events at the GA in Delhi 2004; and (2) the problems facing UIAA Climbing in relation to (1), and the 2005 Annual Report by UIAA Climbing (S6). Time will be needed to consult other International Sports Federations with relevant experience, plus the IOC Ethics Commission and perhaps the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The UIAA Articles already condemn in principle actions *'disruptive of or contrary to ... the harmony and best interests of the UIAA'* (S10) and the UIAA Discipline Committee may consider complaints about actions *'bringing the sport into disrepute'* (S11). Questions that might be considered are mentioned (S12).

It is suggested that a further Report on this range of issues be prepared for the next Council meeting in May 2006 or for an additional one in the meantime.

Further information is available from www.alanblackshaw.com
A full copy of the report is available from alanblackshaw@hotmail.com

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