

Matter Arising

Italy :

You will find in the documents an update of the situation. On demand from FISURF, which is ESF member for more than 15 years, as ESF President I tried to help the two organizations in conflict to find their own solution for the interest of the Italian Surf community.

ESF Headquarter

During the AG 2008 meeting, I brought the need of developing an efficient and a permanent administrative platform to the AG attention in order to carry out these projects in an easier way. Before validating a new accommodation for the “European Surfing Federation”, some important issues are to ensure the source of funding, the working, the continued existence and the transparency of the structure. Therefore, it is essential to ensure that the European Surfing Federation protects its independence from the national surfing interests and other submissive political games.

Today, the prospection led to the Aquitaine Council, the cities of Biarritz and Hossegor, as well as the Departments of Landes and Pyrénées-Atlantiques does not allow us to validate a genuine establishment proposal of the European Surfing Federation. The follow up of this proposal requires a freedom of action that only my role as the president of the ESF permits to fulfil. Another main priority is to set up a long-term strategy that boost the European Surfing and that prioritize its history and its values and that avoid to sacrifice European Surfing for local or national interests.

ESF President report AGM 2009

You have the gathering proposal that I talked you in December 2008 during the European Surfing Federation AG.

I would like to back to two slides.

1) Players in the surf field. To get the legitimacy we would like to have, it's important to be recognized by all stakeholders (and surfers) as a strong network of surf organizations which has unique, defendable and sustainable values. It's why it's essential to define who we are, where are we coming from, and where we want to be.

2) ESF SWOT ANALYSIS. To help us to answer to this questions, I proposed to define the ESF in 4 categories. Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The objective to use our Strengths to ameliorate our Weaknesses, create news opportunities and avoid threats. Change our Weaknesses in Strengths and threats in opportunity. The main point is to have an headquarter with a nice lounge but get resources to ameliorate our communication, develop marketing plan and partnerships.

Following that strategy, I would like to overview what we have already engaged to promote the ESF as main actor in the European Surfing:

- Partnership with EUROSIMA : The partnership with EUROSIMA started in 2008 has been extended to 2009 due to mainly to the « SURFING DAY » which knew a tremendous success in Europe. With EUROSIMA we are actually working on the 2010 European University Championships organization. This event would probably take place on the European coast, as many countries and members of the ESF are already involved within their own National University Championships organization.

- Partnership with SURFRIDER : In May 2009 and for the first time, the European Surfing Federation participated during The “European Maritime Days”, in a workshop organized by the European Union at Rome. Then, the ESF convinced the politics how important it is to preserve and control the quality of the ocean all year long within the surfing zones, and testified against the negative impact of the macro-waste (plastic bottles, metallic cans, broken fishing nets...) on surfing and on its economy. All started with Surfrider Foundation (whom made my trip possible). It also helped the ESF to get a better legibility and placed its positioning as an obligatory interlocutor of the European entreaties.

- Relationship with ASP Europe and IBA: We try to develop and maintain a good and a respect full work relationship. Few years ago, François Payot, who was ASP Europe President and Rip Curl European CEO Director, contacted me to see if ASP Europe could be managed on behalf the ESF. The ESF was not ready.... The economic crisis could engage ASP Europe and IBA to work closer with the ESF

-ESF events

- The “European Junior Championships” organised in 2008 by the “Royal Moroccan Surfing and Bodyboarding Federation” has allowed the European countries to check at site the waves potential, and has allowed to show their commitment to the European values. We are studying the possibility of developing a Euro-Mediterranean link in order to improve the exchanges and to finance a medium-term and a long-term development project.

- The Jersey Surf Club, with more than 400 members, is celebrating its 50 years old birthday and for this occasion he is organizing the European Championships 2009. Thank you for that nice organization.

- European Bodyboard Cup and Longboard cup

Following the strategy of ETB, we've decided in 2007 to create the "European Tour Longboarding" (ETL) as back in these days there was no more professional events hold in Europe.

The very good results of the European Bodyboarders and Longboarders in International Events proved us the efficiency of our strategy.

Thank you for your patience and thank you for your support for an ESF better surfing futur