



# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA PÊCHE SPORTIVE EN EAU DOUCE

## FIPSeD Meeting Cape Town, April 18<sup>th</sup> 2024

### Report of the President of F.I.P.S.e.d.

In 2023, despite the persistence of the Russian/Ukrainian conflict, whose end is still not in sight, despite the outbreak of the terrible new Hamas/Israel conflict and the consequent difficult economic situation linked to skyrocketing inflation and the doubling, if not tripling, of the prices of planes, transport and other things, the FIPSeD has continued to increase or maintain its sporting activities and to expand the number of national federations, teams and athletes taking part in our competitions. The number of championships organized annually has now risen to 25, which, as of this 2024, will become 27 because the first edition of the U25 Feeder World Championship and the first edition of the U22 Carp Fishing World Championship will take place, demonstrating that our International Federation is paying more and more attention to youth activities and the promotion of our sport towards those categories that will represent our future.

At the end of 2023, as many as 65 national Federations were members of the FIPSeD, which fielded 402 teams compared to 406 in 2022, a number that confirms the considerable increase that took place after 2021 when there were 327 teams participating in the various FIPSeD championships, demonstrating once again the excellent work that the entire Steering Committee is doing to make the FIPSeD and CIPS grow. In the various championships held this year, there were no particular problems as they went off without a hitch and to the great satisfaction of the participants. Absurdly, the only problems that have arisen are attributable to something that is extremely positive and vital for all of us: the excessively high number of participating teams, as happened at the last World Club Coarse Championships when the size of the competition venue unfortunately forced us to refuse entry toward some teams that would have liked to participate. This is a mistake that must and can be avoided in the future by only awarding championships to countries that have a competition venue with adequate capacity. The problem of capacity does not only concern the aforementioned championship, but also the World Club Feeder Championship and, especially, the World Seniors Carp Fishing Championship where the number of nations entered has continued to grow year after year to the record 32 countries registered last year in France. In the latter case, the problem of the capacity of the competition venue is even more serious since those capable of holding 96 or more pairs and ensuring them more or less similar fishing opportunities are so few that FIPSeD is forced to assign the organization of this championship to the same few countries. This, of course, cannot be the ideal solution, so it is necessary for the FIPSeD Steering Committee to find a way to allow all nations an optimal participation.

For the first time an App linked to the new program, used to compile the rankings for all our championships, was used last year at the World Street Fishing Championships held in Mantua. Thanks to this App, it is now possible to register the competitors' catches in real time and thus greatly reduce the time needed to prepare the rankings. The App combined with the program for the preparation of rankings will also be used during all the other FIPSeD Championships and therefore even for those of Coarse Fishing. In fact, in the very near future, it will be possible to enter the weights and number of fish in the App directly on the competition venue and this data automatically ends up in the competition program for the printing of the official ranking.

Several of the championship organizing countries complain that the entry fees for teams are very low and have not been changed in the last 20 years. At its last meeting, the Steering Committee decided to increase the fee for each team by 100 euro in all FIPSeD championships and to keep the fee of 150 euro for FIPSeD unchanged.

With regard to new applications for membership of FIPSeD and therefore of CIPS, the Secretariat received a request from the “**Sport Fishing Federation of Kyrgyzstan**” and one from the “**National Fishing Federation of Azerbaijan Republic**” who will participate as invited federations, the former at the next World Feeder Championship in Spain and the latter at the World Carp fishing Championship in Croatia. Both applications will be carried to the next Congress for acceptance into FIPSeD as CIPS as candidate members. Another Federation that has applied for membership in FIPSeD as a candidate member is the “**Philippine Fishing Federation**”. Again, the next Congress will be called upon to decide on this request. Finally, the position of the “**All India Angling Federation**”, which has applied for 5 or 6 years now to be accepted as an Ordinary member of all 3 CIPS International Federations and on which a discussion is still open within the Praesidium, remains to be defined.

The Cape Town Congress will also have to discuss the exclusion of a number of federations that have either asked to no longer be part of the FIPSeD because they are currently unable to carry out activities in freshwater (**Egyptian Angling Federation**) or because they have not paid their membership fees in recent years and are not responding to our requests for contact (**Federació Andorrana de Caça I Pesca**, and **National Lure fishing League in Argentina**). It is also worth noting that, at the same time, contacts are continuing with other countries such as the Dominican Republic (Dominican Bass Anglers), El Salvador (Federacion de Pesca Deportiva El Salvador) and Mozambique (Chibassa Fresh Water Angling), which have shown strong interest in joining our family.

A request has been received from the Federation of Sport Fishing of the Republic of Kazakhstan to have an Asian zone recognized by the FIPSeD and therefore also by the CIPS, in order to establish some championships on this continent, such as Ice fishing and Carp fishing. The letter refers to the fact that the following countries have confirmed they want to participate in Asian Fishing Championships: **Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan**. **Japan's** and **Iran's** participation is also possible. Negotiations are also underway with China, Georgia and Armenia. After the Asian tournament will be enclosed in the FIPSeD calendar, we'll be possible to attract more countries from the Asian Zone. It is of course understood that the recognition of the Asian Zone and championships can only be conditional on the Federations participating in these championships all being affiliated to the CIPS or at least having been invited to participate in one of our championships for the first time.

As far as anti-doping controls are concerned, 18 controls were carried out in 2023 (12 in competition and 6 in training). From the results of these controls communicated to us by the International Testing Agency (ITA), one positive result was detected by a Latvian competitor at the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Trout Area Championship held in Lithuania.

As always, I conclude my report with a thank you to all the members of the Steering Committee, without whose support it would not have been possible to carry out the countless commitments that our role requires. Indeed, the World and Continental Championships have now grown to 25, and if, as is hoped, other continental championships develop, they could become many more. In this case, it will be necessary to think about a different organization of the Steering Committee to ensure the presence and support of FIPSeD at the various competition venues.

Finally, a huge thank you goes to all the national Federations that, year after year, contribute more and more to making our beloved FIPSeD great.