



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA PÊCHE SPORTIVE EN EAU DOUCE

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

Cairo, Egypt 24th April 2026

This report can only begin with a heartfelt remembrance of a dear friend of so many championships and so many years spent together on competition venues around the world. Our beloved brother Roland Marcq left us far too soon, leaving behind a void that only time will be able to heal. I am certain that all of us will do everything in our power to follow the path he helped trace over the years, so as to continue strengthening that International Federation - FIP Sed - which we all love deeply.

I also feel it is my duty to warmly welcome the new travelling companions who, for the next four years, will be by our side and support us in the responsibilities entrusted to us by the various National Federations through their vote and their trust. Therefore, I extend my best wishes for their work to Daniel Hrk, Jean Marie Luyckx, Mike McNett, Ivo Sööt, and Tamas Walter.

The persistence of conflicts that have been inflaming the world for too long now, particularly the Russian/Ukrainian and Israeli/Palestinian conflicts, has meant that despite the fact that the number of championships has remained unchanged from the previous year, the total number of teams participating in the various events has fallen from **429** to **396**, a decrease of **33** teams. This must be a wake-up call for all of us, given that, apart from the two or three years in which COVID hit us hard, there had always been a constant growth that had taken us from **248** teams in 2015 to **429** in **2024**. It is also important to note that of the **33** missing teams, **25** are attributable to championships held in Ireland [World Club Coarse Fishing Championships (-14 teams)] and Portugal [World Masters, Veterans and Disabled Coarse Fishing Championships (-11 teams)], i.e. in the most baricentrically distant countries, demonstrating once again what was unfortunately to be expected, namely that the economic difficulties affecting most European countries have not yet been overcome.

In 2025, the number of World/Zonal Championships remained unchanged from the previous year: 27, which is a number that, once the periods least suitable for holding championships (poor fishing conditions, low water levels in the competition area, spawning periods, local requirements, etc), ensures that practically every 15 days there are one or more championships on different continents, with a commitment that involves the members of the FIP Sed Steering Committee throughout the year.

As regards new affiliations, in 2025 we can report the affiliation of the All Indian Angling Federation, which requested and obtained affiliation to all three CIPS International Federations, “the Associação de Pesca Desportiva de Moçambique” and the “Armenia Sport Fishing Federation”, bringing the total number of federations affiliated with FIP Sed to **69**, confirming the positive trend and continued expansion of our international federation to other continents such as Asia and Africa.

Once again this year, it was clear how essential it is for the members of the FIPSeD Steering Committee to pay close attention when selecting the various competition venues and organisers. On more than one occasion, in fact, it was necessary to intervene to correct irregularities in the preparation of the competition venue, the sometimes imaginative interpretation of the regulations, the incorrect use of the equipment used in weighing the catch, etc. Therefore, the support and expertise that the members of the FIPSeD Steering Committee provide on site during competitions in the many different disciplines practised in our international federation have proven increasingly necessary, helping organisers both during training days and on competition days.

This year has seen continued growth in various disciplines that involve the use of artificial bait, such as Trout Area, Street Fishing, Predators A.B. Shore, Predators A.B. Boats, Black Bass Fishing and Predators A.B. Kayak Fishing. These disciplines are becoming increasingly popular among young people, so much so that, especially in Trout Area and Street Fishing, the average age of competitors is much lower than in other disciplines such as coarse fishing, feeder fishing, carp fishing and others. It should be noted that both the latter discipline and black bass fishing are becoming increasingly globalised, so much so that teams from all five continents have often participated in the last editions.

For the second consecutive year, the Trout Area World Championship, which will take place in Italy this year, will see the participation of a Japanese team. This is a huge achievement that rewards the excellent work carried out by FIPSeD in preparing the competition structure and drafting the relative rules, work that has been fully appreciated by the inventors of this discipline, the Japanese, so much so that they have requested and obtained the organisation of next year's world championship in their country.

As regards anti-doping controls, FIPSeD has scheduled **18** controls for 2025, **10** of which will be carried out during competitions and **8** during training sessions. To date, **16** have been carried out (the last **2** controls will be carried out during one of the two world championships still to be held: Trout Area or Kayak Fishing). Fortunately, none of the **16** athletes tested so far have tested positive, so with only the last two tests remaining, we can be reasonably optimistic that this year will end without any positive cases.

During 2025, in the Street Fishing World Championship held in the United States and in the Kayak Fishing World Championship to be held shortly in Mexico, testing continued on the App interfaced with the ranking programme software. Following field tests, the App underwent extensive modifications and improvements that now allow us to follow the progress of the competition and the dynamic evolution of the various rankings, both sector and individual and/or team, moment by moment and continuously, through photos or mini videos, in all championships that involve measuring the length or weighing of fish. It is therefore clear that the App can also be used in Predators A.B. Boats or Black Bass championships.

Also in 2025, the App was tested for the first time in a coarse fishing competition: the Women's World Championship. Of course, in coarse fishing or feeder fishing championships, where the catch is only weighed at the end of the competition, it is impossible to follow, moment by moment, the progress of the rankings, but it is possible to enter the weights that are recorded from time to time in the various sectors at the end of the competition directly into the App so that, immediately after the last weighing has been carried out, it is possible to automatically compile all the various rankings. During testing, a number of issues were identified and certain changes or additions were deemed necessary, such as the ability to cancel an incorrectly entered weight, the need to enter the various weights in the specific sector to which they belong so that a sector ranking can be drawn up immediately, the ability for competitors to validate the weight of their catches by signing directly on their mobile phones, etc. For this reason, the App has

been updated and implemented, so it is likely that it will be ready for use in the first Coarse Angling or Feeder Fishing competition of next year.

As always, I conclude my report by thanking all the members of the Steering Committee and giving a special thought to all those who have begun their adventure with us this year. I am well aware that without the commitment of all of you, it would not be possible to carry out the countless tasks that our role requires. There are currently 27 World and Continental Championships and, if, as we expect, others are developed, this number could continue to increase significantly. It will therefore be necessary for everyone to contribute in order to provide the organisers with the support that is increasingly necessary to ensure that the competitions are held to the best of our ability and to the full satisfaction of the various participants and spectators.

Special thanks go to Secretary General/Treasurer Barbara Durante, who sustains and supports me in every way, and to the staff of the Secretariat, Mary Di Carlo and Michele Chiavoni, who respond daily to numerous requests and resolve the most diverse issues raised by the various national federations affiliated with us.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all the national federations which, year after year, contribute more and more to making our beloved FIPSeD a truly great organisation.

FIPSeD President
Prof. Ugo Claudio Matteoli