

Dear Presidents,

Dear friends ,

We are going towards the end of the season and just a few weeks away from the ITU Grand Final in London, followed by the final ETU event in Sevilla and I want to share with you the activities which the new Executive Board (EB) has been involved in since our General Assembly in Alanya .

- **EB**
After our elections, one place for a female had still to be filled. The EB decided to co-opt Nina Blakkisrud from Norway until next Annual General Assembly in Kitzbuhel . A warm welcome to Nina from the entire ETU family.

- **Committees**
Some positions had remained to be filled. Maria Cherkovskaya from Belarus has been co-opted in the Development Committee .
Stephanie Krauss from Luxemburg and Grega Nahtigal from Slovenia have both been co-opted for the Paratriathlon Committee . One final person has already been identified and will be communicated to all of you asap .
Carsten Damm from Luxemburg has been co-opted for the Medical & Research Committee .
All Committees, with the exception of the Audit Committee, are now. I will update you on further developments in London.

- **Commissions**
Races and Marketing are following our strategic objectives for this term .
Two Commissions will be created at the purpose. Races and Marketing that will interact with each other.
The Race Commission has been formed as follow:
Denis Jaeger, Kathleen Smet, Eugène Kraus, Hamdi Gúneş, Margus Lepik and Matthias Zöll.
ETU will select a coach to complete the Commission.
The Marketing Commission at present is formed by myself, Mojmir Ocvirk and we are still in the process to select the others members . If you have any person to suggest, who has experience, time and passion please forward his/her name to me.

- **Development**
All projects are proceeding according to plan. Each month a progress report is issued and this will be presented to you in London. Among all projects I want to thank the Serbian Federation that has organised, with funds coming from Development and assigned to them, a successful Youth and Junior Camp open to all NFs willing to attend : 16 athletes were present and 4 coaches from ... different Countries.
It is now time to weight up all development activities in 2013 and start discussions for the 2014 programme .

Using this years' experience as a starting point, our Development Committee will first review the position of all NFs, including their development category which will then be discussed in London and the 2014 project will be outlined .

You will receive all information from our Development Committee chair, Bernard Saint-Jean at the confederation meeting in London on Sunday 15 September.

- Races

All our ETU Cups so far have been a success and I want to express my gratitude for the efforts made and the enthusiasm spread by all our stakeholders (athletes, LOCs, NFs, TDs, TOs and Sponsors).

The economic situation does not help but with the commitment and the passion of all of you we have been able to overcome many difficulties.

I had the pleasure to be present in Alanya and all our thanks has to go to Hamdi Gúneş and the Alanya LOC for the great effort in organising our European Championships.

I was previously in Cremona for the third edition of the European Cup on sprint distance. The race is steadily growing and the race course in the middle Aged city centre is really stunning and make this race unique.

At Tiszjauvaros, unfortunately the tragic and sudden death of Gabor Markus overshadowed this great event. I had the privilege to meet him for the first time this year at the race and immediately he made me feel like we were old friends ,sharing the same passion for triathlon. With his kindness and warm personality he has invited me at his house : a time I will never forget. He has left an important imprint on our Triathlon family, in the hearth of all of us and he will be remembered forever.

His race and the innovative formula started in 2012, continued this year and will be as well be copied in a limited part of ETU Cups for the years to come.

At Penza I have lived a unique experience. The place is designed for Triathlon and really deserves more attention from all NFs not present at the event. I saw with pleasure NFs as Belarus, Armenia and Latvia present with their athletes at the starting line. On this occasion I had a fruitful meetings with the Russian Triathlon federation President, Sergey Bistrov, and I want to thank him for his hospitality and for the vision that we have shared for the future of our sport .

- Age Group Athletes

An impressive number of Age Group athletes will be present at London Grand Final but unfortunately not all European NFs will be represented.

The EB is preparing a strategy to support the AG movement and we will communicate to you shortly the outcome of our work.

What we need to do immediately is some exposure on our website for our AG athletes, who with their passion, dedication and commitment are making our sport unique .

As first step we are creating a section on our website (europe.triathlon.org) fully dedicated to AG athletes .

I warmly ask you to do two things before leaving for the ITU London event:

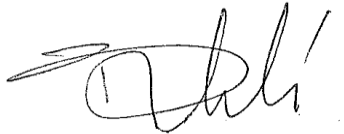
- to promote our web site: europe.triathlon.org through your Federation's communication channel (web...) and to create a link on your website.

- to send to David (david.paddie@etu.triathlon.org) a short story ,max one page with pictures, of two AG athletes (one per gender) that you deem the most representative or in ETU races or in your Federation.

We will than publish their stories in our designated AG section .

See you all in London.

Best wishes,



Renato Bertrandi

ETU President