

Report on Masters Cross-Country Activities in Poland for 2020 – 2022

In the middle of 2020 was established the initiative for Masters activity in Poland.

In connection with above, the following actions were made:

1. Meeting of four active Masters with the Director of the Polish Ski Association (PZN) Wojciech Gawor in Jakuszyce.
2. At the meeting was discussed the establishment of a Masters initiative called Polish XC Masters, which was to have its formal place in the structures of the Polish Ski Association.
3. After the meeting was created a protocol with milestones that were to lead to the formalization of the Masters' activities and the cooperation and support of the PZN in this regard.
4. As part of the milestones, 2 additional meetings were held at PZN headquarters with PZN Director Wojciech Gawor and General Secretary Jan Winkiel, where the details of PZN's cooperation with Polish XC Masters were agreed upon PZN has declared to adapt its statute to the new activities of the Masters
5. After more than a year of exchanging information, emails, phone calls and hundreds of hours of work, the General Secretary of PZN finally announced that he does not find a place for Masters' activities within the Polish Ski Association and the PZN statute was not changed, which finally closed the way for further talks and closed more than a year-long effort to activate Polish XC Masters within the Polish Ski Association.
6. The PZN's decision on cooperation took us back to the beginning and we had to start anew on a completely different basis.
7. I initiated the establishment of the Polish XC Masters Association independent of the Polish Ski Association.
8. I found a group of 14 founders representing cross-country skiing communities from all over Poland.
9. In February 2022, the first founding meeting was held, which established the Polish XC Masters Association. Founders approved the statute of the association created by me and elected the Board of Directors of the Association and the Audit Committee. Then all the necessary documents were submitted to the Registration Court in Gdansk where the association is located.
10. After a long wait and supplementing the documents, the Registry Court rejected the application for registration of the PXCMA Association.
11. This forced the convening of a new founding meeting and amendment to the statute of Association of PXCMA.
12. After couple months of waiting, finally the Polish XC Masters Association was registered with the Registry Court in July 2022.
13. In the meantime, the association's website www.polishxcmasters.pl and fanpage were created. The website includes all the necessary information about the activities of the Polish XC Masters, as well as information about the WMA and the close

cooperation between the two organizations. Skiers can learn from it about the idea of Masters in Poland and the world, as well as about the current activities of PXCМ. Current informations are also published on the fanpage.

14. I prepared regulations for joining the association, which is currently in the process of approval by the PXCМ Board.
15. I conducted an extensive information campaign among Polish skiers about the World Masters Cup, which was met with quite a lot of interest. I personally reached dozens of people in direct contact encouraging them to compete in Seefeld.
16. More than 60 people have declared their participation in the upcoming competition in Seefeld. This number may eventually be adjusted due to the difficult geopolitical situation, inflation and the impending crisis. However I am almost sure that at least 40 people from Poland will take part in the competition, which will probably be the record.
17. I have had the pleasure of appearing several times on Polish television during the Visma Classic races and on the radio informing viewers/listeners of cross-country skiers about the established initiative - encouraging everyone to cooperate.
18. During the Piast Race (the largest cross-country skiing race in Poland), the competitors placing in the medal positions in age categories received gadgets with the logo of PXCМ and my book "20 Steps on Snow" published by me. During the competition, the announcer gave information on the Masters.
19. In mid-August, the Polish Masters Championships on roller skis were organized. About 70 people took part in the competition. Competitors were classified according to the rules adopted by the WMA in age categories receiving appropriate medals and diplomas. The competition was held under the auspices of the WMA, which contributed to considerable interest among skiers.
20. Bernadette Stauder is currently finalizing the topic of accommodation of athletes in Seefeld and I hope that this process will be successfully completed a.s.a.p.
21. I have asked the Board of Directors of PXCМ to meet regularly online to discuss current topics and to make the offer to Masters from PXCМ more attractive.

Andrzej Guzinski

National Director