



CMAS

CONFÉDÉRATION MONDIALE
DES ACTIVITÉS SUBAQUATIQUES

WORLD UNDERWATER FEDERATION

Rome, December^h, 2004

DERNIER, PIERRE
SECRETAIRE GENERAL
DRP/SG/2004/084

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

As the Thai Federation of Underwater Sports (TDA; CMAS Thailand/ Diving Association (Thailand)) has recently been accepted as a voting member of the World Underwater Federation (C.M.A.S.) we want to inform you that CMAS supports the goals and ideals of TDA regarding the development and promotion of Thailand. TDA could become with your support an important, international recognised association with a large and active membership, especially among foreign guests and instructors working in Thailand who should be proud to support standards for tourism, watersports training, education programs and environmental protection through their TDA membership.

First of all I would like to introduce our world organisation to You

History

C.M.A.S. has been created in 1959 and its first President has been the well know Cdt. Cousteau. Actually, there are 112 affiliated federations coming from all over the world, what means from the five continents. C.M.A.S. is a non profit organisation and its Head Quarter, initially located in Paris (France), is actually located in Rome (Italy) in one of the buildings of the Italian National Olympic Committee.

Except four employees, all the C.M.A.S. officers are working under voluntary base and are elected for four years by the C.M.A.S. General Assembly what is the warrant a democratic way of working.

Activities

There are 3 essential activities in C.M.A.S. each of them being managed by a C.M.A.S. Committee

a. The Scientific activities

C.M.A.S. manages two kinds of C.M.A.S. activities

- (1) the strictly scientific ones by the participation of our scientists divers to the meetings of the UNESCO, the IUNC (International Union for Nature Conservation) and courses about Marine Environmental Protection in some Universities.*
- (2) the scientific popularization's ones by teaching all the divers about environmental protection and by teaching them the necessary knowledge in Marine Geology, Marine Biology, Fresh Water Biology and Archaeology in order to give the possibility to help and to work with scientist teams in all these matters.*

For all the divers all over the world C.M.A.S. has published the C.M.A.S. 10 Golden Rules, I join to this letter.

b. The Sports activities

C.M.A.S. manages 8 underwater Sports Activities

- (1) Apnoea*
- (2) Finswimming*
- (3) Orienteering*
- (4) Underwater Photography*
- (5) Underwater Hockey*
- (6) Underwater Rugby*
- (7) Target Shooting*

For all these disciplines, a world championship and continental championships are organised each two year. To not disturb to much, I will develop only our Finswimming activities what is the most important one. This activity has been called by a Spanish Journalist as the Formula One in Swimming for the reason that the 50 meters are covered in plus minus 15 seconds.

Viale Tiziano, 74 - 00196 Rome - Italie

☎ + 39/06/36.85.84.80 Fax + 39/06/32.11.05.95

Email : cmas@cmas2000.org

<http://www.cmas2000.org>

This activity has been recognised by the International Olympic Committee in 1988, but, until now, we have not had the chance to enter the Olympic Games. Nevertheless, as a discipline recognised by the IOC, we have the opportunity to participate to the World Games, what C.M.A.S. has regularly done such the first edition of these Games.

We have also developed Finswimming for Juniors with a World championship each to year.

It as been decided, for the next future, to gather all the World championships of all our disciplines in a large event which will take place each four years and called the C.M.A.S. Games. We have planed to organise the first one in 2007.

c. The Technical activities

These activities concern essentially the sport diving and the goal of C.M.A.S. in this matter is to normalise the teaching standards for divers and instructors in all the affiliated federations. These activities include the air, nitrox, trimix, children, rebreather and cave diving.

As we are a non profit organisation our standards point out the safety in diving what is the most important thing for us.

Membership in other organisations

As the Finswimming is a sports discipline recognised by the IOC, the C.M.A.S. is a voting member of

a. GAISF (IOC): General Association of the International Sports Federations

b. IWGA (IOC): International World Games Association

For its activities in the scientific world C.M.A.S. is

c. A member of IUNC International Union for Nature Conservation

d. Recognised as a UNESCO NGO

C.M.A.S. Web Site

If you need some more information about C.M.A.S., I remain at your disposal and inform you that you may have a lot of information on our web site: <http://www.cmas.org>

CMAS Thailand/ Diving Association(Thailand) (TDA)

As an official voting member of CMAS, TDA has the following rights, priveleges and perogatives:

According to the worldwide regulations of CMAS all CMAS instructors in Thailand should now apply for membership in TDA. In the future only members of TDA should be permitted to teach CMAS courses in Thailand. Exceptions should be permitted only with the written consent of TDA. The association should also work closely with the National Parks and other government agencies such as tourist associations to achieve their common goals of developing and promoting Thailand. With the acceptance of TDA into the worldwide association CMAS, TDA can now officially start to pursue its goals. These goals should include the protection of the marine environment (especially the flora and fauna of the seas), the training of local teachers in all levels of educational institutions to teach watersports (swimming, snorkeling and diving) and the aquatic environment. Not to be forgotten is the role of CMAS in the International Olympic Committee. TDA should work with the Olympic Committee of Thailand to develop National Teams and National/International Championchips in underwatersports such as listed above and a National Monofin Swimming Team with the goal of participating in future Olympic Games. An important goal should be as well the development and training of Thailand's National Park Rangers, Rescue Swimmers/Divers and Marine and Police Divers with the support of the Thai Government. TDA should also help to raise Thailand's international recognition and support standards for tourism, training and environmental protection in Thailand.

Yours faithfully,



Pierre DERNIER
Secretary General