



Future Strategy

Ver 2019

FIPS-Mouche International Sport Fly Fishing Federation

1. Introduction

The FIPS-Mouche might develop taking account of:

- a) continuing membership of CIPS
- b) the need to produce Championships of a high and even standard
- c) the traditional method of allocating championships, based predominately on rotation or on compromise where there is a conflict.
- d) the traditional method of financing championships whereby the host country bridges the gap between the amount raised by registration fees, and the total costs, by sponsorship
- e) the very limited financial resources which the management structure (four unpaid volunteers) has to inspect venues, monitor progress in the preparation of events, control their quality and standards and administer a growing number of events
- f) the difficulty of obtaining a sponsorship contract spanning a number of years when quality cannot be guaranteed
- g) the limited appeal which fly fishing has for TV audiences and TV advertisers
- h) the lack of control which FIPS-Mouche has over its intellectual property, particularly of the Championship title.

2. Finance

Whilst more money, from sponsorship or wherever else, would make the task of running championships and of managing FIPS-Mouche easier it would not in itself improve quality nor contribute to the achievement of an even standard, year on year, wherever championships are held. Conversely, a sponsorship contract is unlikely to be obtained until an even standard can be set and guaranteed. The key therefore is to define, set and control standards.

The concept, successfully achieved in Jackson Hole, USA, of attracting sponsors through a parallel corporate event, is one which should be pursued by FIPS-Mouche and Federations hosting events. Youth and/or Disabled events may have more appeal to sponsors.

3. Standards

The following areas, in order of priority, are possible standards:

- a) Fishing: Equal opportunities for all, neither too many or too few available fish, easy access to beats, not more than two hours travel between accommodation and the start of fishing or between sectors.
- b) Travel to sectors: Well organised and comfortable travel to sectors with sufficient room for competitors, spare clothing and tackle.
- c) Information: A well organised results service and multi-lingual information/help desks manned from breakfast to one hour after posting of results.

- d) Accommodation: Ideally single rooms with en suite facilities, larger rooms for Team Captains. Shared rooms with integral showers/baths and toilets are acceptable, as are lodges. Accommodation must be clean.
- e) Food: Choice must always be available, in addition to local cuisine. Buffet style meals, on Scandinavian lines, offer the possibility of a wide choice and promote informality and social interchange
- f) Organization: Additional standardized forms of scorecards, competitor replacements and competition groups
- g) Ceremonies: Sufficient to comply with FIPS-Mouche Competition Rules plus the requirements of Host Country and Sponsors.
- h) Conservation Symposium: A target of two hours of presentations/discussions on a topical theme of global interest, with visual displays and translation into official languages via headphones.

4. Allocation of Venues

A pattern is developing of Regional Championships, and achievement of a successful minor Championship could be a pre-condition in the allocation of World venues. A pattern is developing also of Championships which are very successful, and up to standard, and those which are less so.

5. Additional Events

In 1998 the Youth Championships have been established, since 2014 Masters and Federations may wish to promote the idea of Ladies and/or Disabled Championships. Leaving aside the undoubted wisdom of catering for all sections of the competitive angling community, the experience of the Youth Championship shows that fund raising/sponsorship for Youth has more appeal than for Senior Championships.

6. Control

Events should not be confirmed until the venue has been properly assessed, inspected and at the end of the inspection signed between FIPS-Mouche representative and Host Country using predefined form of Inspection agreement. Post-event evaluation needs to be carried out to establish if the standards set, and agreed in pre-event inspections, were met. Shortcomings, preferably agreed with the Host Country, should be shared with all Federations.

7. Organisation

The Technical Commission is a legacy from the FIPS-Ed era and in the past did not play a significant role in the way FIPS-Mouche has operated but over last few years Presidential Board involved some members of Technical Commission to take part in inspections. It might be more appropriate that the Technical Commission should be in the future renamed the Specialist Commission and that the Presidential Board be empowered to co-opt up to three members to it with appropriate marketing, business, financial, technical, administrative and linguistic skills to complement those possessed by the elected Board members.