



FIPS-Mouche

International Sport Fly Fishing Federation



Presidential Report

General Assembly – Bohinj (SLO)

April 2025

CHAMPIONSHIPS

There were all 5 FIPS-Mouche championships held in the year 2024, World was held in France, Ladies and Masters were organised as a combined event in Czech Republic, Euro was held in Poland and Youth was organized in Czech Republic.

WFFC 2024 France

Headquarter of the world championship was high up in the mountains in Font Romeu (1800m asl) in Occitanie region, in Pyrenees. Accommodation of teams and officials was therefore provided in chalets per team, anyway of a very high standard. Teams had to use their own transport to get to dining facilities and departure to sector in Chalet des Airelles, approximately 5 minutes away from accommodation.

Opening ceremony was in the town centre of Font Romeu with a short parade, unfortunately no FIPS-Mouche flag flown which does not meet the formal ceremony standard. Luckily there was no time stress on final competition day as organiser had scheduled 1 extra day in the program, which was highly welcome by all participants. One Jury meeting was called for due to misconduct and lack of beat boundaries by the local controller. Fishing on rivers was challenging, provided lake sectors high up in the mountains required extreme physical preparation of the competitors as well as of the captains while rotation and sector changes. Environmental symposium was held with a topic on the Pyrenean desman, a small aquatic insectivore, threatened with extinction. There was a good attendance. To a big surprise of all involved the planned 4 antidoping controls were not carried out, due to doctor appointed simply did not appear.

FIPS Mouche Board was represented by Stefan Allacker and Edoardo Ferrero.

There were 22 teams present and in teams home France won, before Spain and USA. In the individuals Pierre Kuntz (FRA) won gold, silver Sebastien Delcor (FRA) and bronze Gregoire Juglaret (FRA).

Ladies and Masters 2024 (combined) Czech Republic

This combined event was traditionally situated in South Bohemia region, but this time in a new hotel Zaton close to town Rozmberk. The championship was held on rivers Vltava, Malse and 2 lakes Kvetonov and Lipno2. Opening ceremony was on the main square of town Rozmberk with a solid general public present. All lady teams were accommodated in main hotel Zaton with a high room and food quality, whereas masters were located in different hotels with a significant difference in standard of accommodation and food. For 2 complaining teams the registration fee did not meet the equation. Our Board team did not have a permanent access to the printer facility. Along with a usual business they had to resolve 2 issues calling for a Jury. In case of Ladies the RSA protested regarding USA captain entering and crossing of water.

In Masters category there was an organizational problem with beat allocation for SWE and NZL. 1.5 hours of extra fishing time on half beat was provided as compensation. Fishing was traditional for this region with main focus on browns, rainbows and chubs. In order to save time on the last competition day, the session score cards were photographed and sent to main office.

FIPS Mouche Board was represented by Stefan Allacker and Edoardo Ferrero.

In the Ladies category team of Czech Republic took with a sovereignty a gold, followed by FRA and AUS. In individuals Eliska Simunkova Markova (CZE) won, silver took Julie Quillard (FRA) and bronze went to Katerina Svagrova (CZE).

In the Masters category team title went to Italy, silver to Spain and bronze has been taken by home team Czech Republic. In individuals Valerio Santi Amantini (ITA) won the gold, followed by silver Borek Kopecky (CZE) and bronze was taken by Marek Macka (CZE).

Euro 2024 Poland

The 28th European championship was held on legendary fly fishing river San in area of the town Lesko in Poland, that had proved its quality in couple of the previous FIPS-Mouche championships. International organizer of this event was Adam Kubacki with a great previous organisational experience. Ceremonies in amphitheatre with a general public was perfectly organised and fully met all standards. Accommodation in three different hotels close to each other was great as well as the food provided. Timing of the busses and overall logistics went very well. During the session we inspected all sectors and can only confirm professional acting of the local controllers and sector judges. All sectors were placed on river San, one of them as dry fly only, which should be ideally included into each event as a strong recommendation. FIPS-Mouche team (represented by Mario Podmanik and Cato Vivelid Nilssen) was resolving 1 issue due to dead fish put for scoring by Czech angler.

Regarding the final results the home team from Poland dominated significantly (not accidentally the majority of team mates were locals!!!) and won gold, silver went to France and bronze to Czech Republic (in total 14 teams were present). The overall dominancy was undertaken also in individuals where home anglers did not let anyone else to stand on podium and so gold won Szymon Konieczny (POL), silver Michal Fejkiel (POL) and bronze was taken by Adam Wnekowicz (POL).

Youth 2024 Czech Republic

21th Youth Championship was hosted by CRS in Czech Republic on river Vltava with all 5 sectors on, due to the hot summer conditions there was no lake sector available. The headquarter was situated to the hotel Herbertov, that is suitable for this championship category. Unfortunately, only few of the cabins were renovated on time contrary to the plans presented during the inspection, anyway teams placed there highly appreciated it. Opening and closing ceremonies were in Herbertov due to the fact that Monastery in Vyssi Brod whose garden was supposed to be the place for medal ceremony, was occupied.

Captains did enjoy that much the provided room for captain's meeting as it was on one hand too small for it, and also too warm with a poor ventilation. Organisers had changed the at the inspection approved room (in an opposite building) as it was provided to the tackle shop – which we do not consider as the one in favour of participants. In spite of the hot summer weather conditions, the fish was quite active and overall fishing quality was very good. The fishing was a bit negatively effected by the huge amounts of the canoes rafting down the river especially in sector in Vyssi Brod and therefore after the first competition day the fishing time was moved to earlier to slightly eliminate this effect and possible incidents. Additionally, the socialising on the terrasse of Herbertov was unpleasantly affected by an extremely overpopulated wasps,

luckily no major incidents appeared. FIPS Mouche Board was represented by Mario Podmanik and Edoardo Ferrero.

In the Youth championship the team gold was taken by USA, silver went to Poland and bronze to Czech Republic (10 teams present). In individuals' gold won Kage Kossler (USA), silver Logan Max (USA) and bronze was taken by Hardie Justin (USA).

NEW MEMBERS

In 2024 Board received following applications for:

1. ordinary membership:
 - Angling Cymru (Wales)
 - All India Angling Federation (AIAF - India)
2. candidate membership:
 - Norther Ireland Fly Fishing Federation (NIFFA – Northern Ireland)
3. expelling of membership:
 - FSFU (Ukraine)
 - FSPMMC (Monaco)

All the above items will be dealt with in a dedicated part of the agenda.

BOARD

As we had a smaller size GA last year in Cape town, we postponed the submitted motion from CRS to this year GA and you can find it along with all new motions from SVK, FRA and FIPS-Mouche Board. The last significant set of rule changes were approved at GA in 2023 and so we prepared a reasonable list of changes in CR and Statues to improve and general competition framework and our by-laws. Some motions from Board are coming from the brainstorming meeting with captains, that was held in 2023 in Slovakia at the occasion of the WFFC. All of them were early ahead published on our website in order you could internally discuss on them on technical level, to prepare your federation position for today's voting. In April at the GA in Cape town, the FIPS-Mouche delegates elected Cato-Vivelid Nilssen (NOR) into the position of the 1st Vicepresident and so right after the Board starting with know-how sharing and introduction of new board member into the regular business activities.

Additionally last year FIPS-Mouche has made a conceptual change of the championship website the way that all championship website will be handled internally and covered inside of the fips-mouche.com domain only. Organizers will only provide the requested web assets (pictures, logos, text, contact data...) based on the time plan. The website has a common structure, identical navigation system so everyone can easily become familiar with it and find all data very quickly. Throughout this system we can guarantee that all standardly requested data will be provided on the website as our community is used to.

Dear delegates, as my presidency is almost over (due to the fact that according to FIPS-Mouche Statutes, any Board member may stay in the same position max 2 terms in row), allow me to briefly summarize from my perspective the most valuable achievements of the Board in period of the last 8 years:

- ✓ FIPS-Mouche website rebuild, including:
 - new registration process for championship
 - championship websites
 - eVoting
- ✓ All historical result files safely stored on Dbox
- ✓ Draw program transition from standalone to web-based platform
- ✓ Combined championships

- ✓ Ladies championships
- ✓ Zone championship
- ✓ Monthly online Board meeting

Additionally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all Board members, members of the Technical commission, team of International Supervisors, CIPS and other fly fishers for their valuable voluntary contributions during this entire mission I know personally very well how much time and effort had to be invested, but at the end of the day looking back and looking at these listed achievements I am pretty convinced that it was a well spent and invested time in favour of this community and so allow me to wish to the new Board good luck, good decision taking and a lot of good ideas and its implementation that will push a competitive fly fishing forward....

Thank you and Tight lines.

Mario Podmanik
FIPS-Mouche President