

SECRETARY REPORT

The current member nations of the ESRF are: UK, France, Holland, Italy, Portugal and Belgium. As is evident in the country reports, surfboat rowing is gradually growing as a sport within the nations. Hopefully this will continue as the ESRF gets stronger and begins to organise training and development opportunities.

We have had 5 management meetings throughout the year. The statute was changed to allow non EU countries to participate in the European Championships. The purpose is to include countries such as Turkey who have surfboats arriving in preparation for the Gallipoli centenary and Egypt who have a surfboat from the last World Titles.

There was a lack of attendance at the meetings which made it difficult to discuss the future progress of the ESRF.

I have had the extra challenge this year of organising the European Championships in France. This rather large task was made easier by the support and help of the Soulac mayor, Nicolas Maridat, Sebastien Grammond, Philippe Doimo and the members of the Begles lifesaving club. All the hard work behind the scenes should make for an enjoyable and successful European Championship.

It is with great regret that I resign from my position as Secretary of the ESRF. I have enjoyed being part of the development of the sport in France and the combined European effort. I look forward to hearing about the future growth of the ESRF and surfboat rowing in Europe. I wish Peter and the new management committee lots of success for the coming year.

Thanks to all of you for your support over the past 5 years.

Kelly Brennan