IFSSH Newsletter

August 2009

The IFSSH Delegates' Council has devoted some time to consideration of the fairest method of selection of IFSSH Congress venues and hosts. The following guidelines were accepted at the Delegates' Council Meeting in Poznan, June 4th 2009.

For selection of IFSSH Congress venues and hosts:

- That IFSSH Member Societies be divided into three geographic regions:
 - 1. Asia / Oceania
 - 2. Europe
 - 3. The Americas

• That each geographic region be "weighted" according to (a) the number of societies and (b) the number of individual members within each of the respective regions.

- That a geographic rotation system be established, based on the "weight" of each region.
- That member societies of one specific geographic region be invited to apply for hosting rights for the IFSSH Congress according to the geographic rotation system.
- That submissions be invited from the next geographic region on the rotation list if there are no appropriate bids from the designated geographic region societies.

• That no single member society host a second Congress if there is a bid from a society which has not hosted a Congress. Some allowance is necessary to recognise that the societies of the United States make up about four-fifths of the member numbers within the geographic region of the Americas.

In implementing the above proposal, the following established guidelines must be taken into consideration:

• The host country bid must comply with IFSSH guidelines and the bid must remain a competitive process.

• The Executive Committee and the Delegates' Council must consider whether any particular bid is of reliable quality and whether the host country can fulfil its responsibilities.

• The ability to conduct a combined IFSSH/IFSHT Congress is preferred but is not an absolute prerequisite.

- The principle of "best bid should win" remains the overriding principle of selection.
- The final decision is that of a majority of the IFSSH Delegates' Council.

Therefore, the next nine congresses will be distributed in the following manner, with the order to be determined following the Delegates' Council Meeting at the IFSSH Congress in Seoul, October 31st-November 4th, 2010:

REGION	NUMBER OF CONGRESSES
Asia / Oceania	3
Europe (+ Africa)	4
Americas	2

Regional and International Congresses:

8th Congress of Asia Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH) - Kaoshiung, Taiwan 13th – 15th November, 2009 www.apfssh2009.org

XVth International Congress of Federation of the European Societies for Surgery of the Hand (FESSH) – Bucharest, Romania 23rd June – 26th June, 2010 www.fessh2010.com

XIth IFSSH Congress - Seoul, Korea. 31st October - 4th November, 2010. www.ifssh2010.com

XIIth IFSSH - IXth IFSHT Congress - New Delhi, India. March, 2013

IFSSH Website:

The IFSSH website is continually updated and is the main means of communication between member societies. The Executive welcomes information from all member societies, including notice of national meetings and matters of interest, both current and historical, for distribution to our members.

The website address is **www.ifssh.org**.

Those societies wishing to place information on the website should forward that information to the Secretary-General.

Michael Tonkin Secretary-General, IFSSH Email: mtonkin@surgery.usyd.edu.au