

IAM Board Election 2022 – question round answers from Sven Wetzel

Questions from Boris Konrad:

1. What is your highest priority for the IAM for the next few months?

For me personal as part of the software team:
The easier handling of event data.

That includes: generating the data, entering the results and presenting the results.

Make clear what is defined as cheating. Especially in the digital form.

2. How much time do you plan to dedicate to this volunteer role?

First I would say 8H/week.
This can be raised depending on the needs for that position.
That I am at the moment not fully aware of.

3. How much time do you expect from other board members to commit?

I expect that time that is needed to complete their projects/tasks.
That includes also to get in contact with others of the board.

When you want a number, I would say 1 Hour/Month.

4. Whom would you give your vote for chairperson of the board?

I would vote for Simon Reinhard.
Without him I would not be part of the IAM.

Question 5 is only for candidates who compete as memory athletes.

5. Do you see a possible conflict of interest if you are a board member and decide/discuss on rules of the sport or details such as prize money distribution? If yes, how do you plan to deal with that?

You can go the strict way and forbid such conflict.
But that would mean to cut out persons that burn for memory sport.
In my eyes that would be sad.

As I understand the goals of the IAM, the rules are needed to be decided in a democratic way.
Alone of that fact we solve a part of the problem:
I can only propose rules.

Also the rules exist to give everybody the same chance to win.
That concept should not be changed.

Questions from Sylvain Arvidieu:

8. What do you think would be ways of going from the covid-time PR drought (having competitions results and even new World Records not being reported) to having a more efficient way of informing members of memory-related news and reaching for new audiences?

For the competition results I would refer to the easier entering of the event data (like results) - see answer of question 1.

My observation is that we have a good pr team.
The shift to be mostly online has hit almost everybody hard.
That changed the pr market and the interests of persons.
Therefore we should look what is now in use.
And if we need to look in other media and/or platform to promote the news and make cross references.

This way we reach new audiences and members.

9. What would you strive for the most: having high-participation competitions, having a lot more live competitions every year or having a high density of high-performing athletes at selected competitions (continental and world events)?

I would strive for a mix of the options.

Live competitions are part of memory sport.
I see them as good pr in the sense:
come and see what you are able to do.

More (live) competitions can mean more overlapping of competitions.
Or the changing of the length of competitions.

A point to take into this discussion at the moment is that we are not able to say how the political events affect travelling.

High-participation is the key to spread the word about the memory sport.

And also to have high performer in events.

But to set the focus only to high performer would mean to violate a goal of the IAM:
to bring memory sport to everybody.

A new person would possibly not want to compete against only the high performer.