

Portugal held on the weekend of 24 and 25 October, it's VII National Bonsai Congress.

This event took place at the Cinema-Teatro Joaquim d'Almeida, with the support of the Municipality of Montijo, and was attended by the Italian artist Enrico Savini, accompanied by Rocco Cicciarello, one of his students at Savini's Bonsai school, Progetto Futuro Bonsai.

As well as a demonstration of these artists on a pine, the program also included a demo of two federated Portuguese clubs, Associação Lusitana de Bonsai (José Machado) and Clube Bonsai Sandô (Viriato Oliveira).

It is also counted on the participation of Ikebana International, through an exhibition of pieces of this Art by Mrs. Monika Wittmer, as well as Portuguese ceramic artists Miguel Neto and Josiane Rodrigues, with his works (Bonsai pots, Kusamonos and other artworks with different themes).

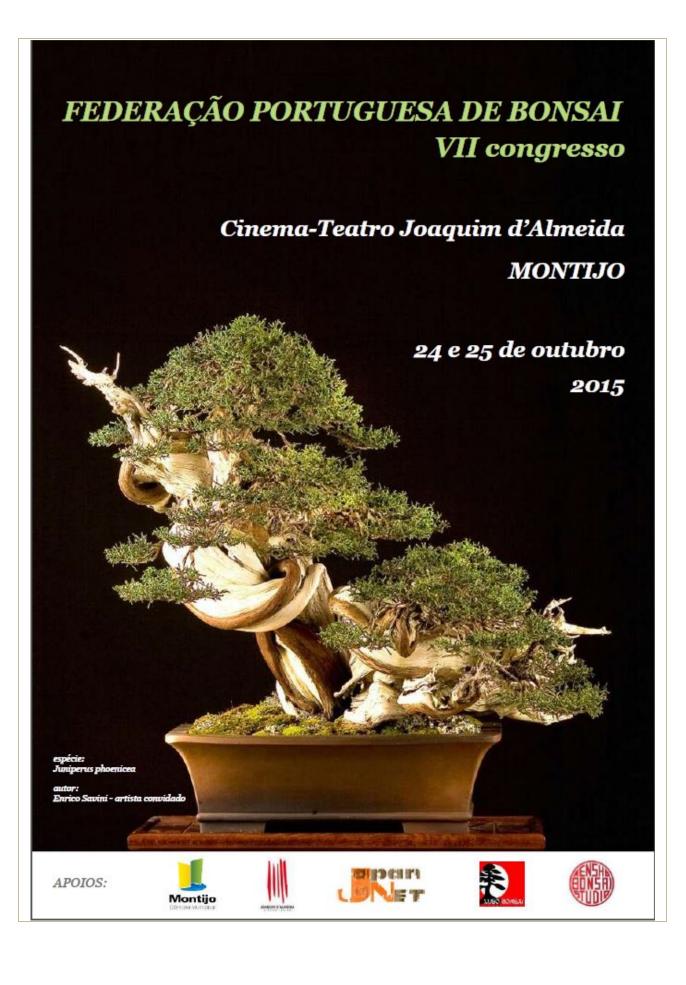
Five awards were assigned among the 30 exhibitors present: best bonsai on display, best shohin, best display, best leaf tree, best conifer.

The prizes were handed over to the winners at the Saturday night dinner, attended by the congressmen and by the Montijo county and Cinema-Theater Joaquim d'Almeida representatives.

The event ended Sunday with a meeting of clubs, a round table with discussion of issues related to the Portuguese Federation.

The FPB expresses its gratitude towards all participants (associations and anonymous public), as well as supporters of the event, without whom it would not have been possible its realization.

In 2016, the VIII Congress will be held in Algarve, on site and date to be announced by the new board.











Winning Trees













One of the most important bonsai events in Slovakia is the National exhibition of bonsai and Suiseki organized by Slovak Bonsai Association (SBA). The 13th national exhibition was held between 11th and 13th of September 2015 in Museum of Slovak National Uprising in Banská Bystrica (SK). Our members participated and displayed 95 bonsai trees, 3 shohin displays and 18 Suiseki stones.

The opening ceremony speech and patronage was given by the Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Akio Egawa.

Five candidates took part in the New Talents Contest (NTC). The raw material, Picea Abies, was quite challenging, but the end results were surprisingly good. The winner of the competition, Ladislav Lenčucha, will represent Slovakia at the European Final in 2016 in Hungary.

We have introduced a 2-day long workshop that was available for free for all our members. Hopefully, we have established this idea also for the upcoming years as it met with quite a positive response. Many bonsai and pre-bonsai trees were styled under the supervision of Pavel Slovák (CZ) and René Lempel' (SK).

As part of a new approach we've also introduced Trade area with great offer of bonsai trees, tools, pots and bonsai display stands. Naturally, members were allowed to sell as well.

For more information and pictures, please visit our official web site

www.bonsai-sba.sk/galerie/narodne-vystavy/











Another big show organised by local bonsai club enthusiasts was Bonsai PKO Exhibition in Prešov, which was held in June 2015. The main demonstration and workshop was performed by well-known Korean bonsai master Kim Se-won and Seok Ju Kim. The lectures about bonsai art were given by René Lempel' and Milan Roskoš.









Milan Roskoš and Cyril Tatranský achieved great success in Arco this year and won the team competition prize. Yamadori Mugo Pine was turned into a wonderful semi-cascade bonsai. More info can be found on our webpage:

www.bonsai-sba.sk/webpage/reportaz-arco-bonsai-2015

Kind regards Rastislav Moravčík, Ladislav Lenčucha Board members of SBA





Many local shows and workshops were organized throughout the season such as the traditional Bonsai Camp Martin in Trusalová, Cassovia Bonsai Studio with Pavel Slovák, Václav Novák and Juraj Szabó in Košice, Exhibition of Bonsai Club Košice or Bonsai Kvetena in Banská Bystrica.









The Main activity of the Swedish Bonsai Association 2015 since the summer braeak was the annual national meeting. This year it was held in Umeå, north of Sweden 12-13 September. During the meeting we had an exhibition, a demo as well as a workshop led by Takahiro Mori from Tokyo.





Mori-san started the workshop with a general lecture of design and continued with individual discussion with the 8 participants of the workshop.

The trees in the workshop were a Linguster, 2 Pinus Mugo a Shimpaku, three Picea abies as well as a Pinus Sylvestris.



The demo was done on a Pinus Sylvestris (yamadori). The demo was done on the Pinus Sylvestris.

One of the workshop trees – a Picea Abies, similar to Ezu Matsu, with short needles.

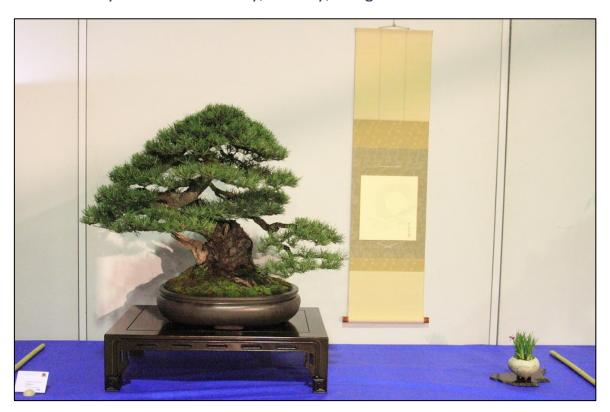
The meeting also included a review of the exhibited trees giving the exhibitors useful advice on how the improve their bonsai trees as well as exhibition design.

Although Switzerland may be a small country it is a great land to grow bonsai. The Alps, the fresh water and the changing season all have great benefits to our plants and although our clubs don't have as many members like other countries may have, we are very proud to be able to organize a Swiss show every year. This time we were located in Langnau in Emmental, a small town 30 km away from the capital. The show itself was a real hit, not only we managed to have great demonstrator but also, thanks to the right management, we were able to make it free entry, so all the citizens from the region and from far away were be able to see the show without paying an entry fee.

In September we went to Vilnius at the EBA convention and we were really proud that the best tree went to Enzo Ferrari and another member of our community, Philip Mannes, received a third place at the New Talent Contest.

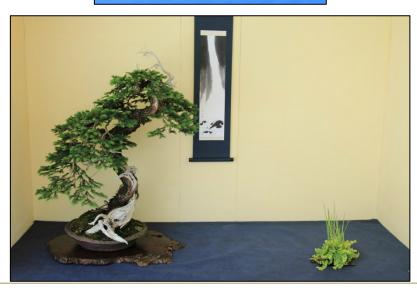
At the moment the new reassembled Swiss-board is very busy and I am sure that the next years will be promising for the bonsai scene in Switzerland, for the moment we managed to redesign our website, that has to be in the three languages, our magazine that has four issues a year is as popular as never before, and thanks to Facebook the Swiss association is growing.

Switzerland may be a small country, but boy, it is good!











Bonsai World 2015, K2 Crawley, Sussex

An excellent Exhibition, blessed by superb weather. Bonsai World goes from strength to strength. Sussex Bonsai Group did a first class job in staging this Show; they may have had hurdles to jump at the start of their planning, suffering from the sad loss of Ray Ward, the prime mover for this event. However they more than made up for the lost time to produce the best show yet; the standard has improved each time and now reaches a truly international level. A very good variety of trees and displays with many excellent individual and society displays with the new innovation of a display of suiseki from the newly formed British Suiseki Society.

There were some very well deserved awards, with a choice that must have made judging very difficult. The judging was done by German Gomez, Peter Warren and Ian Cuppleditch; presentations were made by Ken Norman, President of the Sussex Bonsai Group. If there was to be any criticism to be given and hopefully this will be taken in the helpful way it is intended, some of the societies were too anxious to please their members and in some cases overcrowded their stands using trees they perhaps would been better to have waited a little longer to develop.

There are many thanks to be made following this highly successful weekend. First and foremost, to Andrew Ford and his team from Sussex Bonsai group with manpower and help also from Crawley Bonsai Society.

Next to the demonstrators, Kevin Willson, German Gomez, Paul Finch and Amnon Paldi, who willingly and freely gave of their times and skills to ensure the success of this event.

Thanks the go to the traders for their support, the sponsors for their financial support, to FoBBS and Mark and Ming Moreland for the loan of their backdrops and signs and of course to all the exhibitors, without whose support there could not be a show at all.



Exhibition area as seen from above with the Sussex Bonsai Group display as a central feature.



Part of the trade area.



Sussex Bonsai Group tokonoma display



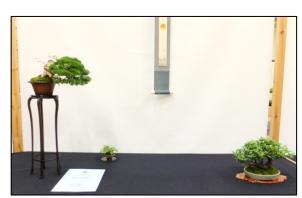
Best in Show' - Taxus baccata



Best Group Planting': Zelcova serrata



Best Large Tree': Blackthorn



Best Shohin Display': Juniperus chinensis



Best Society Display'

Prize winners:







Sutton Bonsai Society



Chrissie Leigh-Walker

The Prize winners

L. 'Best in Show': David Green

2. 'Best Society Display': Sutton Bonsai Society

3. 'Best Individual Display': Chrissie Leigh-Walker

4. 'Best Large Tree': John Pitt

5. 'Best Group Planting': Ken & Ann Norman

6. 'Best Shohin': John Armitage

7. 'Best Mame: Les Storey

8. 'Best Suiseki: Amnon Paldi



Kevin Willson at work



German Gomez's demonstration



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At the RTM and AGM in Vilnius some of the questions concerning the results of the Working Group (WG) could be clarified but some are still up for further discussion. With the continuation of the WG the Members and the Board decided to carry on with five selected proposals to find an acceptable common basis for improvements.

I am sorry that there was no time at these Meetings to discuss some old ideas like the EBA Club Twinning or the support of recurrent international bonsai events, which bring together bonsai friends from three or more EBA Member Countries, like the Bonsai Triennale or the International Alpen Adria Bonsai Exhibition and others. Maybe we will find time for a more detailed reflection about these ideas during our discussion about the proposal "Major Events".

The next EBA Convention will take place from 20 - 22 May 2016 in Hungary. The site of the Convention is the town of Székesfehérvár near Budapest and Lake Balaton. Our Hungarian bonsai friends have already put together the program which has been placed on the EBA website (and towards the end of this Newsletter). We hope that as many of our members will participate in the exhibition.

A central point of this EBA convention is the election of the Board. Every four years the whole Board will be elected. Reg Bolton, the long term president, may no longer be standing for election because of the bylaws. Before each election there is the appeal to the members to nominate candidates. The following points must be observed for the nomination:

- Each nomination should contain a notice of the function the nomination applies.
- The application has to contain a bonsai CV of the candidate so that the EBA members can get an idea of the candidate.
- Just before the election at the AGM each candidate has to present himself to the members in proper English, except the members of the current board, because they are well-known.
- For the members of the current board there is the opportunity to apply for a further turn, except the president.
- Applications must be received by the Secretary, 2 months prior to the AGM.
- The Secretary will send all applications including the Bonsai CV of the candidates to the members for their information as soon as he has received all applications.
- If there are some questions about the process please contact me. Further details regarding the running of the election will be announced in NL 86.

In Vilnius the AGM decided to hold again an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) in Genk in January 2016 at the Noelanders Trophy. The main issue concerns the discussion about the proposals of the Working Group 2. In the meantime the

coordinator of the WG, Marc De Beule carried out the review and summary of the 5 proposals which were selected for revision. On the basis of this work, each individual proposal will be put by the board into specific questions for a vote. These documents will be sent to members in good time together with an invitation letter for the meeting. The location and the exact time of the start of the meeting will be published by the beginning of January. Together with this information we will deliver to the delegates the agenda for the meeting. I am looking forward to meeting you or your nominated representative at the EGM in Genk.

Change in Personnel: During the year 2015 some of our EBA Delegates have changed. The Board offers its thanks to all the Delegates who have worked in the interest of EBA and their National Associations in the past:

Switzerland: Chris Mathys;
Czech Republic: Karel Müller;
France: Jean Marc Pouillon;
Italy: Leonardo Pettinari;

For the convenience of the Members the board publishes on the EBA Website names and addresses of the current EBA Delegates.

All the best for the season and a Happy New Year 2016

Detlef Mostler , Secretary Klagenfurt, December 2015

EBA BYLAWS Article 10 - Communication with Members.

- 1. An information bulletin (EBA newsletter) will be published at least twice a year.
- 2. It will act as an organ of communication between the Board and all members. Electronic media can and should be used for distributing information within the EBA. For this purpose an internet EBA website will be maintained by the EBA Board and decisions from the AGM. The Web-master is responsible for creating and updating the website. He will be co-opted to the Board but does not have the right to vote.
- 3. The Newsletter will contain a summary of any written communication of general interest; any change in membership; any report on EBA activities; any invitations reports of agendas and at least once a year a full report on revenue and expenditure.
- 4. Any item once published, is regarded as official.
- 5. Any member Country may contribute and must have their text published unaltered if in connection with Bonsai art.
- 6. Each member country should forward to the Secretary it's annual programme with announcements of any forthcoming club events, shows/exhibitions relative to Bonsai.
- 7. To facilitate the above, each member country must appoint a person as an EBA Delegate who is responsible for their country's input to the website and the Newsletter. The name of the Delegate will be published in the newsletter and registered by the Secretary and Web-master and will be published in the Newsletter and on the website. Additionally each member country will appoint a person as EBA Contact, preferably the country's Secretary or Chairman/President; this person will liaise with the appointed Delegate to ensure all communications to and from the EBA Board, together with Newsletters are distributed to all their member clubs or societies.
- 8. The names of the EBA Delegates and Contacts will be published in the Newsletter and on the website. Those appointed must have been a member of their National organisation for at least one year.

EBA BYLAWS Article 12 - The Board

- 1. The board consists of 5 persons.
- 2. Board members (BM) are elected by the General Assembly at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or in the case of suspension or termination by written vote if the period between the time of suspension or termination and the coming AGM is longer than three months and in the case of an appeal the court of arbitration has made its decision. These are:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-President 1
 - c. Vice-President 2
 - d. Secretary
 - e. Treasurer
- 3. Each board member should be preferably from a different country.
- 4. The term of office is four years
 - a. The president is electable for only one further term; all other officers are electable for further terms.
 - b. The President and the Secretary should not retire in the same year.
 - c. The departing past-secretary shall act for one year as an ex-officer member of the board with an advisory role and not have the capacity to vote.

5.

- a. Candidates for the Board are nominated to the Secretary of the EBA by a Full Member at least 2 months prior to the AGM by letter or e-mail addressed to the Secretary.
- b. If, however, the number of candidates for the Board does not reach the number of vacancies, candidates may be nominated by the Board.

6.

- a. Candidates for the Board have to be a member of their national member organisation for at least one year, and must be present at the AGM when their nomination is being considered. Whether or not an excuse for not being present which should be an exception can be accepted, has to be judged by the AGM.
- b. An individual can be nominated by any EBA Member Association but can never be nominated again by another EBA Member Association than the first for which he stood for elections. In the case of relocation of one of the Board Members to another country the term of office for this Member ends officially at the normal planned end of duty. For re-election the Board Member needs the full support and membership of its new home country.
- 7. The candidates must at the General Assembly be at least 18 years old.
- 8. The duties of each board member shall be allocated at the first Board meeting after the AGM for the functions that were not allocated by the EBA-AGM following the elections.
- 9. Each board member is obliged to fulfil his/her duties.





EBA Bank Account

Jürgen Carocci

European Bonsai Association (EBA) Volksbank Kurpfalz H+G Bank eG, Germany Account no: 79760005

BLZ (bank rooting no): 67290100 Ref.: EBA membership fee 2015

If you transfer Euros please use the IBAN and BIC codes IBAN = DE 83672901000079760005
BIC = GENODE61HD3

The membership fee is 172 Euro, if paid to the EBA account until January 31, 2015 190 Euro, if paid to the EBA account until February 28, 2015 218 Euro, if paid to the EBA account after February 28, 2015

Please make sure to include all transfer costs.

Members from non-Euro-countries may pay the fee of 172 Euro, cash at the next EBA Convention in Lithuania.

Please send me a short message until end of January 2016 if you want to pay in this way.

If you have any kind of question please do not he sitate to contact me.

Thank you for your cooperation. Jürgen Carocci

EBA Working Group 2

November, 2015

Original proposal

AMBASSADORS

It is almost impossible for the board to keep in touch with every member in Europe.

Creating the function of three or four ambassadors, (non-board members, preferably non-national delegates), can help solve this problem. Each region can choose its own ambassador. The A.G.M. will develop a job description for these people. Ambassadors should inform the board about what is happening in their region; this will help prepare for the EBA congress. They will keep in touch with non-member countries in their region. Ambassadors should preferably be individuals with a lot of 'credibility' on the bonsai scene.

- Help member countries with a limited number of members;
- Keep in touch with non-member countries
- Help preparing a proposal to organise a congress;
-

Contributions of the working group	Adaptions to the original proposal				
DENMARK Denmark thinks that the idea about ambassadors should be people with a lot of credibility in the bonsaiscene as a bad idea. The problem as we see it is if ambassadors are be people with a lot of credibility it could be an option for them to go professional and promote themselves. Instead an ambassador should be a dedicated person who wants to promote the EBA brand and is committed to the task. If the EBA should have ambassadors it shall be people who are politicians and maybe delegates not somebody outside the EBA group.	1. Ambassadors or Every country should a contact person in the board. The comments learn me that the word 'ambassador' has not the same (emotional) meaning in other languages/countries				
Ambassadors should be elected in the same way as Board members are elected, that way we will have dedicated people as ambassadors who will do a job for the Board and for the EBA.	2.				
POLAND We think idea is good, but ambassadors have to be selected carefully to choose people who are frequently present in most of the countries in region (who are travelling a lot or are in constant contact with other organizations).	Ambassadors or contact persons can never replace the delegate				

Somehow the Ambassador should also activate member countries to promote their events and support them to organise recurrent events which can grow year by year by:

- Integrate countries within region to organise events together, for example
 Triennial organized by Germany, Czech Republic and Poland
- Promote new demonstrators from region to other regions

It is required to define period of work for Ambassadors and communication with Board rules like frequency, action plan, results, etc.

SWEDEN

Some questions on the proposal:

- What regions are we talking about?
- Why cannot the delegates be ambassadors? Possibly with the help of an assistant delegate?

With the questions above in mind I still think the work of the ambassadors might be useful. The three job description proposals above are good ideas. Representing a small bonsai country we would certainly be helped and could also help non-member countries, like in Scandinavia we know Norway have a vivid bonsai club and many interested in Finland.

Another possibility is that neighbouring countries have a joint congress, like a "Scandinavian one, located then in South Scandinavia (Copenhagen – South Sweden), if one country finds it too much work.

FRANCE

Each ambassador should at least speak two or three of the following languages: English, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, and languages from the centre of Europe.

It should be member of his country board (in this case is more able to know all events in his country) or/and representative of few other countries.

Collect all informations related to new tree illness found in the ambassador representative area and transmet theses information to the EBA bord for information .

U.K.

I have serious reservations over this; firstly, what would be the role of such an ambassador within EBA? If it is to promote his/her country's bonsai together with events etc., then surely this can be achieved by sending information to put on the EBA website or via a Newsletter. Obviously, when attending an EBA Convention (or any other European convention for that matter), they would circulate among delegates, but then, how many such ambassadors would you be requiring at any one time?

[An attempt was made many years ago with Bonsai Clubs International (BCI) to establish ambassadors - I myself was supposed to be one and still am to my knowledge. That was 16 years ago - I have received no communication from

3.

Ambassadors or contact persons should have a precise job description

I believe we must find a formula in which:

- Each member country has a contact person (Board member or not) who knows the bonsai situation in the member countries of his region.
- This person must maintain an open communication between the region and the entire Board.
- A precise job description is needed
- A 'contact' cannot interfere with the rights of a delegate. He can just give advice and information.

successive BCI Boards and on the one occasion when ambassadors attending a BCI Convention were asked to attend an "Ambassadors meeting", I was the only one who turned up!!]

If anything needs to be done in this respect, it is to ensure that an effective line of communication becomes established between the member countries and EBA. Rather than ambassadors, would it not be preferable to have two or three responsible individuals as reliable points of contact within each country?

Clearly, the main point of contact would be the EBA delegate; they would then be responsible for appointing others who could deputise for them or at least guarantee that information received from the EBA Board gets passed on to others within their country and that items of information from the member country gets sent to the EBA Board and/or website. This is now what FoBBS is doing re. communication to its' member societies, where we have at least two or more contacts per society.

I would like to think that the points of contact would be the greater priority - these could be the EBA delegate together with one or two others from that countries national bonsai federation e.g. secretary, administrator. EBA only needs to reflect back on how few delegates have responded to queries by the Board over the last few years.

SWITZERLAND

I don't understand why it isn't possible to keep in touch with every member of the EBA. Could you enlighten me on the challenges you are facing in making this a reality?

I fail do understand why the ambassadors (denominated as AMB) cannot be delegates.

We welcome the idea of an AMB, yet he/she shouldn't be paid and be a delegate.

Original proposal

MAJOR EVENTS

Negotiate with the organisers of the major bonsai events in Europe to get a stand to inform the people about what EBA is doing (EBA congress, NBTC, homepage, WBFF,).

- We can make flyers, a roll up,
- EBA can grant an EBA award best European tree in the exposition on the occasion of every major event.
- EBA can develop a standard of what a 'major bonsai event' is and grant a quality label to this event.

Contributions of the working group	Adaptions to the original proposal				
DENMARK Many major events are for the professionals today and we forget the armatures, for example the Noelanders trophy is all about who has the most money and can buy the best tree from Japan or hire the best professional to create	1. LDA awaiu				
the tree.	EBA award: realised. The two first awards (Vilnius and Bury) are a fact. The award is given to the best bonsai				

In our opinion that is not what EBA is, EBA is a non-profit organisation for non-professionals who can exhibit their tree and show their skills that way.

The idea about giving a prize at every major event is already a possibility by the merit award, but the idea about giving a prize or more to the major European events as the Noelanders trophy is a great idea.

The thing is that if a country gets a members' trees into a major European eventhow do we then define who is in contest or getting a merit prize and who is a professional?

Merit prizes should be given to non-professionals and European trees so we do not end up with someone who will "buy" themselves a merit price.

The merit prizes shall be for the people who grow the trees on their own, for their own profit, not for somebody who wants to win glory and honour by paying for it.

As we see it, it could be the delegates job to tell the Board if a non-professional is participating in a major event and then take the decision who will win a merit prize from that list of participants.

The merit prize should be as wanted as a prize as that from the Noelanders trophy, this will make the quality higher for the non-professionals and they will have something to work for to try and win.

To promote EBA it is also important to tell the audience what EBA is, this will may be give the audience a new sight on why EBA is important and take it to a higher level.

There are only a small amount of professionals but there are many amateurs who might want to raise their standard if they know they have a chance to win something and also get help from the EBA in their home country to get better.

Our suggestion is to make EBA more visible is by having a stand with flyers and so on to promote the congress and the EBA organisation, of course with people who want to promote the EBA.

POLAND

We like this idea, however EBA award and "quality label" cannot be used too frequently to not diminish its value.

For example small prizes with EBA logo, which were presented by Reg in Vilnius are really great thing, but has to be used carefully to keep their value.

SWEDEN

All sounds like good ideas. Just do it.

FRANCE

Option by the ambassadors to enter on line all major events in EBA site confirmation made by the web master

U.K.

Would suggest:

in the show.

Or

Do we have to develop other criteria? (A European tree? A tree of an amateur? If one can define this???

We must point out who can give out the award. We must avoid that we only give awards at events where an EBA board member is present. This can be interpreted as randomness.

- 2. A quality label for major events No clear views on this item
- 3. An EBA information desk on every major event: ok

- a) that an EBA information desk/table be established whenever possible at European bonsai conventions; on it, member countries could provide literature to promote forthcoming events etc.
- b) at various European bonsai events, EBA present an award for either an individual tree or display by a local society as has been the case with 'Bonsai Europe'.

SWITZERLAND

In our opinion the same people that are AMB can also be involved in the major events, depending on the region; this is an idea certainly not to be overlooked.

Original proposal

COMMUNICATION

EBA should communicate through a complementary set of media:

- The Newsletter (content and frequency to be specified);
- EBA Website:
- Facebook;
- Magazines (see proposal 7);
- Mailing groups (not only the delegates);
- Major events (see proposal 8);
- Important Bonsai sites, e.g. Bonsai Empire;
- Website of national organisation.

EBA should define its target groups and adopt its style of communication depending on these groups. Varying from delegates to the general public.

Communication is essential to set EBA as a brand in the international bonsai scene.

Contributions of the working group	Adaptions to the original proposal				
DENMARK We already have a newsletter which Nigel has been doing a very good job in designing. It is the delegate's job to give information for this newsletter; could also be an Ambassadors job to give information on their work and of course the Board who is already giving the necessary information.	 Every type of media (see list in the proposal) seems to have its own advantages. Most doubts are on Facebook 				

What could be an option is a Facebook site, not a group but a site where the Board can tell what they are working on, to promote the congresses and other stuff.

Things are already going on Facebook but a group is not a good idea, a page with one or two admins on who can post information on what is going in the national, European and International bonsai scenes around the world could be a great thing.

We already have this information on our website but another way we can reach people who do not know about the EBA or someone who do not use the website.

We could use a commercial to tell people what EBA is doing and what they are working on...

Maybe Instagram could be a possibility to post pictures from national or major events to give credibility to EBA and to show that EBA is what binds the amateurs together in Europe.

Magazines are winning again, after a long time where they could not sell they are now back on track so of course this could be a possibility too.

What we need to think about is how EBA can be used for the promotion of the national community's to promote them.

The communities shall never need to think, what do we need EBA for, they should think we cannot be without EBA, because together we stand stronger than apart.

Denmark is already posting the newsletters from EBA on their website and people are now thinking that EBA is something we need to expand and to get new knowledge.

The event in Lithuania should be posted in an article in for example Bonsai Europe where pictures of the trees which got merit certificates should be shown.

That would give a more exposure to the members in the countries who had member who got a merit award.

POLAND

Communication has to be provided in very good English to present EBA in a consistent and high quality way.

Only Facebook communication can be more spontaneous, but anyway limited to not too large number of people. The most important factor in social media communication is to provide information frequently in order to enlarge number of followers rapidly and constantly. However it has to be analysed in order to understand if for example photos of others can be used on EBA Facebook profile, information from other organizations, etc.

Facebook communication should present EBA as a "live" organization, while other communication (more official) should present us as mature organization with experience, well known members and well organized events.

SWEDEN

The Newsletter (content and frequency to be specified); what would be the difference from current procedure? More frequent?

- For every medium in the list we must develop an approach
- We need to find the volunteers to do the job (under supervision of the Board).
- Newsletter: the most recent edition was much better;
- EBA Website: investigate if better information on the member countries is possible (one page per country using a template). This now being done just need a submission from each country.
- Facebook: ??? ???
- Magazines: contact them and ask to publish (once a year) information on EBA and the upcoming convention.
- Major events: see proposal 8
- Website, type Bonsai Empire
- Website of national organisation: at least mention the link to the EBA homepage.

- EBA Website; could be expanded. The webmaster could proactively communicate more with the country delegate or appointed person in the countries.
- Facebook; strongly agree. In Sweden we have about 170 members in the Swedish Bonsai Association but around 900 members in the associations Facebook discussion group. One reason is that many of the Facebook members are located too far from a club so they can only rarely (at an annual meeting/event) take part physically.
- Magazines (see proposal 7); (Proposal 7 should have been spelt out). Would be good to have information in magazines about the EBA activities.
- Mailing groups (not only the delegates); uncertain what this would mean?
- Major events (see proposal 8); agree
- Important Bonsai websites, e.g. Bonsai Empire; agree
- Websites of national organisation. In our case we have already implemented that.

FRANCE

- The country who organise the last EBA convention should send all information to the next country who organise the next convention
- WHAT A MEMBER SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHEN MAKING A BID FOR HOSTING AN EBA CONVENTION
- A suggestion: avoid people that are too young because they are surely lacking maturity and stability to perform correctly.
- For me this option is not very good for all young Bonsaika. The result would be better if young demonstrators help an established demonstrator. We need to think that all young or old people could made some judgement error

U.K.	
None	
SWITZERLAND	
I am in charge of the communication in our country, with Facebook, Website, newsletter, articles in magazine and more. For me it's more a job than a task. The hours are long and frequent, the person who will be in charge of this	
task has to be very reliable and work hard to archive an acceptable result.	
Good luck to the fortunate one.	
Good fack to the fortunate one.	

Original proposal

EBA CONVENTIONS

That serious consideration needs to be given to any proposal by a member country wishing to host an EBA Convention. Consideration needs to be given to:

- 1. Location, particularly ease of travel to the venue within that country and to that country. (At present, I personally am having considerable difficulty in finding suitable flights from UK to Vilnius. Costs are considerable, and if having to have connecting flights, journey each way can be in excess of eight hours.)
- 2. Proximity of Convention site to suitable hotels should be a list of hotels and costs.
- 3. Details of programme this would initially be provisional, but a year from the event, a detailed programme should be in place.
- 4. EBA Board and delegates should be able to vote on a proposal at least 2 years beforehand so that host organisation can proceed effectively. (This is why UK had to withdraw bid for 2016 in Birmingham as no decision had been taken when the Convention centre and Convention hotel required confirmation).
- 5. Budget as this is an event held **on behalf of EBA**, should there be some financial input from EBA e.g. paying for an international demonstrator or funding New Talent Competition?
- 6. Once a date for an EBA Convention is set, it is **not changed** do not want a repeat of Poland 2014 in Wroclaw when date was moved back a week and it was not possible for some to alter their plans.

Contributions of the working group

DENMARK

- 1. To say that an EBA convention shall be held in a country where you can fly directly to from the UK is in a way snobbish it is the same for everyone if the convention is in the UK it is very hard for someone from the eastern Europe to travel to the UK but they do not complain it shall be equal for everyone where ever the congress is held and that we must accept...
 - It is a big event for the hosting country and something which gives them great commercial credibility and maybe also new members to their community, why shall someone lose that opportunity because it is hard for someone to travel there?

Adaptions to the original proposal

- 1. The question of the financial input was solved in Vilnius.
- 2. We have rules on organising an EBA congress
- 3. I read a concern about programme (in time!), data, accommodation and location.

Challenges:

 Encourage and help the smaller bonsai countries to host the convention.

An alternative to think about:

Up to now, EBA conventions were independent events

- 2. We can agree that the list of hotels shall be there and that the cost shall be visible also one year before the congress so you can book them.
- 3. This can be a problem as not every country will know who the demonstrators shall be, so it can be a problem to announce a full program a year before; but main demonstrators should be in place one year before so you have something to promote the congress with.
- 4. We agree that it should be possible to give permission two years before to a country to host a convention so we do not end up in losing a convention because of rules or time.
- 5. As it is now EBA will get money from a country for using the EBA name, this was a possibility in the past but as it is now we need to invest some money in branding the EBA name. Also EBA has a lot of contacts in the Far East and in the USA so It could be a good help for the hosting country to get contacts that way and maybe EBA could help financing this or get a better price?
- 6. We agree on that once the date is set on the AGM then it is fixed and cannot be changed under any circumstances...

POLAND

No more comments.

SWEDEN

- 1-2. Agree with the location and the logistics around that. Possibly one could have a number of countries that are centrally located and therefore suitable for hosting an international convention from travelling and hotel point of view. A problem then is that more or less the same people would have to organize the event every year. An advantage on the other hand is that it becomes easier as one knows from earlier year what to do (i.e. like Noelanders Trophy). One possible solution is that the organizing group varies but a core remains, with a local group assisting.
- 3. A core programme should be available, only to be adapted to the local circumstances. Agree that a year in advance the preliminary programme should be ready.
- 4. Agree,
- 5. One should consider a joint budget local-EBA. It is a heavy risk for a smaller country otherwise. Also joint meeting with Japan fest is advisable for

organised by the national federation.

Why not give existing and successful events the label 'EBA convention' (as we will do in 2017, Noelanders Trophy). These organisations have already a good structure and are known by the public? Examples: Saulieux, some annual national meetings of national federations (e.g. Germany), Arco

sponsoring.

6. Completely agree but was not the Polish change out of the local organisers control? Such unfortunate occasions can happen again and we need to be prepared.

FRANCE

- The Board members are traveling to the Convention town using their own money, to avoid this the country who hosts the convention should take in enough ticket money to cover all charges to access to the event (Flights charges, registration, gala dinner)
- **Article 6 : EBA contribution** The organisers will hand down a contribution (€250,00) to EBA funds. The amount will be transferred to the EBA-Account
- The EBA should receive a percentage of the gains made during the convention. In case of loss there is no contribution except the previous contribution of €250

U.K. agree

SWITZERLAND

In our opinion a very important task! We are considering a turnaround system in our country, in which every member would have his turn to host a show. There are members who never, ever hosted a show. Maybe this is something else that also EBA would wish to consider.

,



A small country "managed" a big event Successful EBA Convention in Vilnius, Lithuania

"Go East!" seems to be the current motto for an EBA Congress. Last year, the European Bonsai countries met in the Polish city of Wroclaw, in the coming year, the journey leads to the Hungarian Szekesferhervar, and this year was the destination Vilnius in Lithuania.

At the modern exhibition centre "Litexpo" the majority of the exhibits were presented by the organizers, closely followed by bonsai friends from the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary. Especially the latter accounted for special attention in Vilnius, for they are the host of the EBA Convention from 20 - 22 May 2016.



Overall ten of the current 19 EBA member countries exhibited in Vilnius. Due to the "peripheral situation" of Lithuania (although Vilnius is the geographical centre of Europe) unfortunately some important bonsai nations were not represented. "You missed an exhibition" which EBA president Reginald Bolton praised as follows: "Well done Lithuania, you demonstrated what a small and dedicated group of bonsai enthusiasts can do with diligence and hard work to promote our hobby to its best advantage."

At the EBA Convention Kestutis Ptakauskas, the President of the Lithuanian Bonsai Association, tried to combine forces with other forms of Japanese culture and conceived the Bonsai and Suiseki Exhibition as the main parts of a Japanese Festival. This combination had been successful already in the past large bonsai events in Lithuania, and it did not fail its effect even in 2015 as long queues at the ticket offices proved.

In Lithuania international events have a high status; the presence of foreign guests is always seen as an appreciation of the own small country. So it's no wonder that in addition to the Japanese Ambassador, the Vice Chancellor of Lithuania welcomed the participants.

In eager anticipation the specialist visitors looked forward to the NTC (New Talent Contest). After winning the national contests 13 participants travelled to Vilnius. They were worked on a Chinese-juniper of medium height. The material was of comparable quality, so a luck of the draw did not decide about victory or 2nd or 3rd place. The young Polish NT Bartosz Koblanski was the absolutely deserved and unanimous winner; and also the second and third places for Carello Bonanno (Monaco) and Philipp Mannes (Switzerland) were undisputed.



Enzo Ferrari's (from Tessin, Switzerland) powerful Pinus mugo was awarded best tree of the exhibition; EBA Awards were given to the Slovaks Milan Roskos for a dignified Carpinus Coreana and to Torben Brenfeld (Denmark) for a shohin display.

All demonstrations were very well attended.

Christian Przyzybilski from Germany together with his team worked on a large Pinus sylvestris; he designed it fundamentally two years earlier at the Japan Festival in Lithuania. The result of the work at Vilnius let us expect a tree of international grade of quality.

se Youk Kim (South Korea) and Salvatore Liporace (Italy) acted on the stage at the same time as Christian and his team. The guest from East Asia, who already had received much acclaim at this year's Noelanders Trophy, did not disappoint his "fans" in Vilnius. Out of a Chinese juniper of most medium quality Se Youk achieved the most what was possible time and daily care have to do the rest of the work. Doyen Liporace had a Sabina Juniper at his disposal, which he brought with him; it was a tree of high quality. Out came a very harmonious tree with wonderful movements.

The second demo day was reserved for some demonstrators from Eastern Europe. György Rácz and his team showed by means of their demo with a juniper, type "Garden-Yamadori" with only a little movement that the Hungarian Bonsai Scene had arrived at European quality level. The creative power at the demo and the excellent trees, which Rácz and his friends took to Lithuania, led us expect for the coming year an exciting spectacle in Szekesferhervar (between Lake Balaton and Budapest).

Wlodzimierz Pietraszko from Poland reworked a mountain pine in cascade form. Almost all visitors guessed that the tree would be an expressive yamadori from the Alps, but had to be told that the plant came from the Czech mountains - and these plants are found at a height of 1600 meters.

Herbert Obermayer



New Talent Competition Vilnius 2015



This year each contestant received one of the newly commissioned merit awards (annotated NTC finalist or their place in the first 3) recognising their achievement in representing their country in the NTC.

This year the judging was much better with only two dubious decisions. I found it surprising that one judge could complete his task in less than 5 minutes whereas one judge took 40 minutes. I leave you to consider this.

However the winner was clear cut and well deserved first place. His CV is as follows:-



My name is BARTOSZ KOBLANSKI

I was born on 19 February 1991.

In 2015, I finished University of Environmental and Life Sciences with the title of Master of Science in Horticulture. I met the art of bonsai in 2006 at an exhibition in Chorzów organized by Mr. Włodzimierz Pietraszko.

Since then I've tried to create a bonsai based only on the knowledge gained through the internet. Everything changed in 2013 when I first participated in workshop in Wroclaw Academy of Bonsai. Since this time I have attended many bonsai workshops with Mr. Włodzimierz Pietraszko.

The knowledge I gained there allowed me to win the New Talent Contest organized by Polish Association of Bonsai and the New Talent Contest organized by the European Association of Bonsai in 2015.

2006 – First encounter with the art of bonsai

2013 – First workshop in Wrocław Academy of bonsai

2013 – 2015 – Workshops in Wroclaw Academy of bonsai

2015 - Winning in the New Talent Competition organized by the Polish Association of Bonsai

2015 - Winning in the New Talent Competition organized by the European Association of Bonsai





















Convention Programme

HUNGARY, SZÉKESFEHÉRVÁR ~ 20-22 May 2016

DAY 0 19 May 2016, Thursday

Szent István Building

07:00 – 22:00 Registration: Delivery of trees, set up of exhibition and trade areas

DAY I

20 May 2016, Friday

Opening hours 10:00 - 18:00

07:00 – 10:00 Registration: Delivery of trees, set up of exhibition and trade areas

10:00 – 14:00 New Talent Contest of Hungarian Bonsai Association

15:00 – 17:00 **EBA Board Meeting**

15:00 - 18:00 Exhibition and Trade Fair open for public

18:00 – 20:00 Exhibition official opening ceremony with taiko drum

DAY II

21 May 2016, Saturday

Szent István Building

Opening hours 10:00 - 18:00

10:00 - 14:00 **New Talent Contest**

10:00 - 14:00 Chiara Padrini Suiseki presentation

12:00 – 18:00 Demo Show international guests

Valentin Brose Germany Andrea Melloni Germany

Will Badeley UK

10:00 - 18:00 Suiseki exhibition, bonsai pot exhibition

Hiemer House

09:00 -12:00 origami exhibition and workshop

12:30 -13:30 oshibana workshop

14:00 -15:00 kimono show

15:30 -16:30 tea ceremony

17:00 -18:00 karate show

Hotel Magyar Király

14:30 - 16:30 EBA Round Table Meeting (RTM)

19:00 - 20:00 Wine tasting(optional)

21:00 - 23:00 Gala Dinner, Award Ceremony

DAY III

22 May 2016, Sunday

Opening hours 10:00 - 17:00

Szent István Building

10:00 – 12:00 Kusamono show by Kitsimono (Viktória Gyöpös, Bálint Tirpák)

12:00 - 17:00 Demo Show

Andrea Melloni - Germany William Baddeley - Great Britain

13:00 - 15:00 Eduardo Rossi presentation

16:00 - Closing Ceremony:

Words of thanks from National Association Chairman and El Vice President

10:00 - 17:00 Suiseki exhibition, bonsai pot exhibition

Hiemer House

09:00 -12:00 origami exhibition and workshop

12:30 -13:30 oshibana workshop

14:00 -15:00 kimono show

15:30 -16:30 tea ceremony

16:30 -17:00 karate show

Hotel Magyar Király

10:00 - 13:00 **EBA AGM**

13:30 - 15:30 **ESA AGM**

Current position of the arrangements of the EBA 2016 Convention in Székesfehérvár:

- All the places are reserved now for the exhibitions for bonsai and suiseki.
- Additional Japanese culture related programs are set up for the visitors.
- We will suggest 3 hotels for the event, the list can be found on the dedicated website for the event that will be

published at the start of December

- The website will be written in two languages: English and Hungarian.
- Further detailed information about the event, for example, location and program will be on the website
- The website will also have necessary informations for the registration of trees from the member countries, and also the registration for traders.
- We invited more demonstrators from Europe, the list of the demonstrators with a short description will be published, also on the website.





Just for a little fun. Sorry it is not interactive but can be printed off.

Answer in the next Newsletter 86 out in May

ACCENT AIRLAYERS BENCHES CHU **CUTTINGS** DAI **KEISHI** KIFU MAME **REFINEMENT ROOTPRUNING** SCROLL **SEEDLINGS SEEDS** SHITO SHO SHOHIN **SHOW**

STAND

TOKONOMA

Bonsai Word Search

V	K	F	Ι	S	S	Χ	V	Ρ	W	A	S	W	U	В
E	M	A	M	Т	В	E	C	В	W	Q	Η	K	L	Η
Т	С	W	Q	D	I	E	E	J	N	J	I	Ο	Q	Р
G	N	I	N	U	R	Р	Т	Ο	Ο	R	Т	M	С	J
C	M	E	Η	Т	V	U	В	S	L	L	Ο	R	С	S
Ο	U	C	M	S	S	E	I	G	R	S	D	F	A	U
Т	L	Т	M	E	N	S	S	N	F	Z	В	В	I	Т
С	N	Y	Т	C	N	Т	W	I	N	J	Ο	J	Η	0
S	I	E	Η	I	A	I	R	L	A	Y	E	R	S	K
D	Т	E	C	S	N	N	F	D	A	I	Y	C	I	Ο
U	S	A	Η	C	I	G	S	E	E	D	S	Ο	E	N
Q	F	Ο	N	Η	A	C	S	E	R	Р	Y	Η	K	Ο
F	W	I	Ο	D	J	В	W	S	Т	C	В	S	Ο	M
S	G	Η	K	S	N	F	V	D	Η	F	E	E	Y	A
A	S	Т	S	W	Y	X	S	W	I	A	Z	Η	Ο	A