

**IFAGG**

**REPORT**

**2022**

## **International Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics, IFAGG**

International Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics, IFAGG, was established on 12 October 2003 and is the recognized world governing body of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (AGG). Already, before establishing IFAGG, AGG active countries did co-operation via international AGG Committee (2001-2003).

The IFAGG is a non-profit international federation, and it has been properly and legally registered as such. Its mission and purpose are strictly to advance the sport of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics. IFAGG is the supreme authority on all matters relating to International Aesthetic Group Gymnastics.

### **General information**

#### **1. Mission statement**

The aims and tasks of IFAGG are

- to promote the sport of AGG
- to coordinate international competitions and events
- to grant the right to host World Championships and other IFAGG authorized competitions
- to develop and maintain the international rules of AGG
- to develop training materials and education for coaches and judges
- to foster cooperative relations with other international sport organizations
- to represent the interests of AGG throughout the world when dealing with other organizations.

#### **2. Development of IFAGG during 2022**

Year 2022 was the 19th year of IFAGG – International Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics.

Despite the challenges posed by the ongoing global pandemic, war, and challenging economic situation in many member countries, IFAGG continued to thrive, adapt, and grow in 2022.

1. Spreading the sport and growth: IFAGG expanded to a new continent, to Africa, with the new members from Egypt, and altogether increased the number of members. The activities in Asia also reached a new level, as the Asian AGG Committee was introduced and the 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Championships were held in October in Malaysia.

2. Competitions and Events: IFAGG successfully hosted and facilitated numerous international competitions and events in 2022, both in-person and virtually. The World Championships took place in Graz, Austria, bringing together gymnasts from around the world. This event showcased the incredible talent and dedication of aesthetic group gymnasts. Various regional and national competitions also took place, providing opportunities for athletes to showcase their skills and compete at different levels.

3. Developing the sport of AGG: IFAGG started to invest in an AGG development program, including training camps, coaching and judging education, choreography support and administrative help in member countries. The aim is to increase the participation to competitions.

4. Technical developments: IFAGG continued made a remarkable renewal to competition rules to ensure the sport remains dynamic and appealing to both participants and spectators. Technical

committee and experts collaborated to update the scoring system, judging criteria, and educational materials.

5. Development of the federation: IFAGG updated the Statutes and accelerated the development of governance processes, which will help IFAGG in its aims to be a recognized sport. IFAGG also started a new office and renewed and digitized administrative processes for higher operational efficiency. IFAGG Council invested lots of time to develop the federation and to adjust the operations in turbulent world situations.

6. Promotion and visibility: IFAGG renewed its website and increased the publishing of news and materials in 2022. Social media was used during key events to engage with fans and to attract new audiences.

In conclusion, 2022 was a challenging yet successful year for IFAGG, and we are excited about the future of aesthetic group gymnastics. We thank all our members, athletes, coaches, judges, officials, and supporters for their dedication and commitment to the sport. Together, we will continue to elevate aesthetic group gymnastics to new heights in 2023 and beyond.

### **3. IFAGG Members 2022**

Activities to spread the sport of AGG were successful and IFAGG has enlarged to a new continent, to Africa. IFAGG has now members in six continents: Africa, Asia, Australia/Oceania, Europe, North and South America. At the end of 2022, IFAGG had 35 A-members and 11 B-members.

#### **A members** (situation 31.12.2022)

Australia / Australian Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Federation (AAGGF)  
Belarus / Belorussian Association of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (BAAGG)  
Brazil / Confederaçao Brasileira Ginastic Estetica de Grupo (C.B.G.E.G.)  
Bulgaria / Bulgarian Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (BFAGG)  
Canada / Canadian Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Federation (CAGG)  
Cyprus / Cyprus Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (CFAGG)  
Czech Republic / Czech Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics  
Denmark / Danish Gymnastics Federation (DGF)  
Estonia / Estonian Gymnastics Federation (EEVL)  
Faroe Islands / Foroya Fimleikasambad (FFS)  
Finland / Finnish Gymnastics Federation (FGF)  
France / French Association of the Clubs of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics  
Georgia / National Federation of Aesthetic Gymnastics, Georgia (*new in 2022*)  
Germany / Germany Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (DVAGG)  
Greece / Gymnastic Union of Larisa GEL  
Hong Kong / Hong Kong Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics  
Israel / Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (R.A.) (*new in 2022*)  
Italy / Federazione Italiana Sports Acrobatici e Coreografici (FISAC)  
Japan / Japanese Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (JFAGG)  
Kazakhstan / Kazakhstan federation of aesthetic group gymnastics (KFAGG)  
Korea (Republic of Korea) / Korea Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Federation  
Kyrgyzstan / Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics of Kyrgyz Republic (FAGG KR) (*new in 2022*)  
Luxembourg / Luxembourg Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (LFAGG) (*new in 2022*)

Malaysia / Malaysian Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Association (MAGGA)  
Mexico / Federacion Nacional Mexicana de Gimnasia Estetica de Grupos (FENMEGEG)  
Moldova / Moldavian Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (FGEGM)  
New Zealand / Aesthetic Group Gymnastics New Zealand (AGGNZ)  
Russia / Russian Federation of Aesthetic Gymnastics (RFAG)  
Serbia / Serbian Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (SFAGG) (new in 2022)  
Singapore / AGG Association (Singapore) (AGGAS)  
Spain / Asociacion Espanola de Gimnasia Estetica de Grupo (AEGEG) (*organization's activities are partially limited*)  
Ukraine / Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics of Ukraine (FAGGU)  
United Kingdom / GB Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Federation (GBAGGF) (*from B to A member in 2022*)  
United States / USA Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (AGGUSA)  
Venezuela / Federacion Venezolana de Gimnasia Estetica de Grupo (FEVEGEG)

**B members** (situation 31.12.2022)

Andorra / FC Ordino  
Austria / Allgemeiner Turnverein Graz, ATG Tanzfabrik  
China / "All Star"- Chengdu Sport University Team  
Egypt / Atletica (*new in 2022*)  
Indonesia / Jakrhythmic (*new in 2022*)  
Latvia / Sport Club Crystal  
Luxembourg / Gymnastic Society Auore asbl  
Romania / Asociatia Club Sportiv Ritmica  
Slovenia / Športni klub Bleščica  
Turkey / Savkar Gymnastics Sports Club  
United Arab Emirates / DuGym

**C-members:** no C-members during 2022.

In General Assembly 2022, the following members were expelled (due to not fulfilling the membership obligations):

A-members: Hungary / Hungarian Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Federation (MEGSSZ),  
Norway / Norwegian Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Federation, Poland / Polish Federation of  
Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (PFAGG)

B-members: Bosnia-Herzegovina / Gymnastic club Olimp, Taiwan / NTSU TWONE,  
Thailand / Singapore International School of Bangkok, United Arab Emirates / Stryx Sports

## 4. Competitions

### World Championships 2022

World Championships, Junior World Championships and IFAGG Trophy for mixed teams and short programs were held 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>st</sup> November in Graz, Austria. There were 25 teams from 13 countries in World Championships, and in juniors 20 teams from 11 countries, in this IFAGG annual main event. In IFAGG Trophy, there were altogether 15 teams from 10 countries. According to IFAGG Council decision, teams from Russia and Belarus were not allowed to participate in WCh 2022.

World Championship medalists:

gold National Team / BUL  
silver Minetit / FIN  
bronze Gloria / FIN

#### Country ranking / World Championships 2022

1. Finland / Teams: Minetit, Gloria, OVO Team
2. Bulgaria / Teams: National Team, Velbajd Team, Sofia Sport Team
3. Kazakhstan / Teams: Karmelity, Kerbez, Aphrodite
4. Estonia, 5. Czechia, 6. Spain, 7. Ukraine, 8. Denmark, 9. France, 10. Japan, 11. Austria, 12. Canada, 13. Italy

#### **World Cup and Junior Challenge Cup competitions and continental competition events 2022**

World Cup and Challenge Cup competitions were organized as separate competitions under World Cup/Challenge Cup status but without ranking points, as in 2021, as the world situation still limited the participation to international competitions.

#### **Continental Championships**

The first Asian Championships gathered 30 teams from 5 Asian countries to Malaysia in October 2022, to compete from continental championships in six categories in free program (women in senior, juniors, 12-14, 10-12 and 8-10 years, and senior mixed teams).

Important part of spreading the sport has been international B- and C-category competitions and tournaments in live and online.

Competitions for students were not organized during 2022.

In the beginning of March 2022, IFAGG Council considered the recommendations of International Olympic Committee (IOC) and decided the following:

- Competitions and events: no IFAGG sanctioned competitions in Russia and Belarus are allowed until further notice.
- Teams from Russia and Belarus Federations: no participation of Russian and Belarussian teams in IFAGG sanctioned competitions if required by the organizing country restrictions until further notice.
- Teams from Russia and Belarus Federations: not allowed to use national emblems, flags, anthems in IFAGG sanctioned competitions until further notice.
- Officials from Russia and Belarus: no participation of Russian and Belarussian officials in IFAGG organized events until further notice.

The situation remained the same during the rest of the year 2022.

The list of IFAGG competitions and other events during 2022:

- 26.02.2022-28.02.2022, Tartu, EST, Invitational AGG tournament "Miss Valentine" (category: C-category International tournament)
- 06.03.2022, Mexico, MEX, International Friendship Cup Online 2022 (category: Virtual competition)
- 09.03.2022-11.03.2022, Tallinn, EST, IFAGG B-category competition "Tallinn Trophy" (category: B-category International tournament)
- 09.03.2022-11.03.2022, Tallinn, EST, Invitational tournament "Tallinn Trophy mini" (category: C-category International tournament)

- 11.03.2022-13.03.2022, Tallinn, EST, World Cup I & Challenge Cup I (category: A, world & challenge cup)
- 09.04.2022-10.04.2022, Nur-Sultan, KAZ, IFAGG B-category competition "ALAN CAP" (category: Virtual competition)
- 05.05.2022-07.05.2022, Sofia, BGR, IFAGG B-category Competition "ACADEMIC CUP" (category: B-category International tournament)
- 05.05.2022-08.05.2022, Sofia, BGR, World Cup II & Challenge Cup II (category: A, world & challenge cup)
- 14.05.2022, London, GBR, IFAGG B-Category AGG International Competition (category: Virtual competition)
- 07.06.2022-08.06.2022, Tampere, FIN, IFAGG B-category Competition "PIRUETTI CUP" (category: B-category International tournament)
- 08.06.2022-10.06.2022, Tampere, FIN, World Cup III & Challenge Cup III (category: A, world & challenge cup)
- 18.06.2022-19.06.2022, Chester, GBR, Deeside Summer Cup (category: B-category International tournament)
- 08.07.2022-10.07.2022, Preveza, GRC, 1st Balkan countries AGG B category competition & Open International CUP (category: B-category International tournament)
- 28.08.2022, Osaka, JPN, AGG Shoin Summer Cup 2022 (category: Virtual competition)
- 26.10.2022-27.10.2022, Kuala Lumpur, MAS, AGG Tuah Competition (category: C-category International tournament)
- 26.10.2022-28.10.2022, Kuala Lumpur, MAS, MAGGA Cup (category: B-category International tournament)
- 26.10.2022-29.10.2022, Kuala Lumpur, MAS, 1st Asian Championship (category: Continental Championships)
- 27.10.2022-30.10.2022, Kuala Lumpur, MAS, World Cup IV & Challenge Cup IV (category: A, world & challenge cup)
- 29.10.2022, Shah Alam, MAS, 1st IFAGG Asian Conference (category: Conference)
- 12.11.2022-13.11.2022, Hamamatsu, Shizuoka, JPN, AGG Melody Cup in Hamamatsu (category: B-category International tournament)
- 23.11.2022-25.11.2022, Graz, AUT, IFAGG B-category Competition "STEIERMARK CUP" (category: B-category International tournament)
- 24.11.2022, Graz, AUT, General Assembly (category: General Assembly)
- 25.11.2022-27.11.2022, Graz, AUT, World Championships & Junior World Championships (category: World Championships)
- 25.11.2022-27.11.2022, Graz, AUT, IFAGG Trophy 2022 (category: A-category International tournament)

## 5. Educational activities

In 2022, the renewed competition rules for junior and senior long programs were introduced and a massive training round was started to prepare judges, coaches and choreographers for the new rules from 1.1.2023. The new Technical Committee and the education working group worked extremely hard and professionally to make this major update successful.

Judges and coaches' international educational events in 2022:

- 01.05.2022-04.05.2022, Sofia, BGR, International Judges Course (level 1-3) and Deep Technique Course (category: Education event)
- 16. and 17.06.2022, online, New rules webinar (16/06/2022) (category: Webinar)

- 05.10.2022-09.10.2022, Prague, CZE, IFAGG International Judges course, levels 1-3 (category: Education event)
- 31.10.2022-04.11.2022, Kuala Lumpur, MAS, IFAGG International Judges course, levels 1-3 (category: Education event)
- 02.12.2022 (two events), online, New rules webinar II (02/12/2022) (category: webinar)
- 03.12.2022-04.12.2022, online, IFAGG Online Pan-American / International Judges Course, New rules for 2023 (category: education event)
- 10.12.2022, online, Online exam for judges (category: Education event)

With Council decision the judges from Ukraine were allowed to participate online and do online exam during 2022.

## **6. Code of Ethics process**

IFAGG General Code of Ethics is for everyone who is participating in the IFAGG activities. Basic idea is that the Code of Ethics shall apply to: IFAGG members and their authorities, representatives, members, gymnasts, coaches, judges, officials, elected persons, employees, consultants, advisors, partners, medical, technical and support staff, participants, persons accredited or participated at AGG events, any other individuals engaged at AGG activities as well as any accompaniment of the mentioned persons.

In 2022, IFAGG Council and Ethical Committee have worked in updating IFAGG Statutes, Codes of Ethics and Discipline, started the work with IFAGG regulations and with a plan for WADA membership, to ensure progress in ethical matters. The GA 2022 approved the new Statutes and updates to Code of Discipline and heard the status of plan for WADA membership.

### **Equality**

Aesthetic Group Gymnastics' history and traditions are based on "women" group gymnastics. IFAGG as an international federation has been spreading the sport for all. IFAGG has supported the development and mixed teams have been a part of IFAGG competition categories for several years, as recommended by IOC. IFAGG continues to further develop competing of the mixed teams.

Otherwise, all equality, integrity and dignity issues have been proceeded via IFAGG Code of Ethics that have been published in GA 2018.

## **7. Administration**

The highest authority and decision making body is General Assembly, in which the members have right to be represented. The Council leads the IFAGG between General Assemblies and is the executive body of IFAGG. In 2022 IFAGG had two committees to develop IFAGG activities: Technical Committee (to develop AGG rules and regulations, and with educational working group to educate AGG rules) and Ethical Committee (to provide advice from ethical viewpoints, to consider and decide on compliance matters and to develop etics processes). The administrative tasks are handled by the IFAGG Office.

### **General Assembly**

IFAGG's General Assembly 2022 was held on 24 November 2022 as a hybrid meeting in Graz, Austria and online. 30 A-members and 10 B-members participated in the GA.

GA approved proposed changes to Statutes, which will come into force when the Finnish Patent and registry office validates and registers the new Statutes.

GA had an election of three council members and Annely Riga (CAN), Elena Dukova (BUL) and Renata Vrbova (CZE) were re-elected to continue in the IFAGG Council for two years.

GA 2022 voted the place of World Championships 2025 to be in Sofia, Bulgaria.

The GA decided the timing of the WCh event to be in November from the year 2024 onwards, after a tie vote and a draw (options were May-June and November).

### **Extraordinary General Assembly**

An extraordinary General Assembly was planned to be held in March 2022 to decide on updates for IFAGG Statutes. However, at the end of February, due to world situation IFAGG Council decided first to postpone the extra-GA and later cancelled the extra-GA and took the decision of Statutes to normal GA in November.

### **Council**

The year 2022 was very busy and the Council of IFAGG held twenty (20) meetings. Meetings were organized as online meetings (18.1., 4.2., 21.2., 28.2., 4.3., 8.3., 19.3., 14.4., 25.4., 30.5., 27.6., 2.9., 17.10., 7.11., 13.11. and 15.12.), hybrid meetings (25.1.2022 in Helsinki, FIN and online, 6.10. in Prague, CZE and online) or live meetings (before and after GA on 23.11. and 25.11. in Graz, AUT).

The president led the work of council, except during 5.3.-4.9.2022 when the president stepped back from her position after her own proposal and the vice-presidents took over the president duties (as stated in the IFAGG Statutes).

### **IFAGG Council 2022:**

- Liliya Morozova, Russia, IFAGG President
- Elena Dukova, Bulgaria, Vice President
- Annely Riga, Canada, Vice President
- Lea Kriibi, Estonia
- Saori Kubota, Japan
- Renata Vrbova, Czech Republic, Executive Director
- Jaana Widenius, Finland, General Secretary

### **Ethical Committee 2022:**

- Petra Smějová, Czech Republic, chair
- Aigerim Arpabayeva, Kazakhstan
- Kamelia Dunavska, Bulgaria
- Päivi Lehtovirta, Finland
- Olga Ponikarova, Russia
- Loukia Trikomiti Kara, Cyprus
- Annely Riga, responsible person for the EC

### **Technical Committee 2022:**

- Krystof Havel, Czech Republic
- Polina Nochevnova, Russia
- Maria Asparuhova, Bulgaria
- Maria Pilar Balado Rubio, Spain
- Meri Jaakkola, Finland
- Onn Kwang Tung, Malaysia
- Renata Vrbova, Czech Republic, responsible person for the TC



## **IFAGG office**

In the beginning of year 2022 IFAGG changed the mode of operations with the office services.

Council decided to prolong purchasing the office services from Sport Federation of Southern Finland (ESLU) until 31.1.2022, to enable finalizing the works in progress and prepare for hand-over of information and materials to new office. Until 31.1.2022 the office team was Executive Director Päivi Ahlroos-Tanttu, assistant Paula Nogelainen and financial secretary Stina Koivisto (finances).

From 1.2.2022 IFAGG office started with an own employee (80% part-time), an administrative coordinator Joanna Lervik (ex-Mäkelä) in the lead of IFAGG President and General Secretary. The accounting services were purchased from Tilibic Oy, and the nominated accountant has been Nina Laurila.

## **Projects**

During 2022, IFAGG started a development program to help the members to develop and spread the sport of AGG in the countries. The project aims at achieving new participants in junior and/or women World Championships in the next 2 years, getting the members to participate with more teams in international competitions and in national competitions and educating judges and coaches in the countries. The development program continues in 2023, as part of the activities of IFAGG 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **8. Promotion and media**

IFAGG published the renewed website (*ifagg.com*) in the beginning of 2022. The website has been an active media for sharing news and materials for members and for public, and Council started to publish newsletters in the new website to improve communications to members. The website has also been used to collect registrations to events and webinars. Konstantin Santalov has been responsible for the website renewal and for providing administration, support and maintenance of the new site.

In social media, IFAGG has two official accounts: in Instagram (*ifagg.aestheticgroupgymnastics*) and in Facebook. The content focuses mainly on the biggest events and informing of topical news and guiding followers to IFAGG website.

## **9. Finances**

IFAGG is a non-profit organization. Membership fees and license fees form the base for finances, and other key sources of income are educational events' participation fees and competition organization fees.

General Assembly 2021 decided to keep membership fees and registration fees for 2022 unchanged. Registration fees must be paid once (1.) / membership level (when approved as new member for A-, B- or C-level member).

MEMBERSHIP FEE (paid annually)

A-member: 1200 EUR

B-member: 600 EUR

C-member: 200 EUR

## REGISTRATION FEE

A-member: 400 EUR

B-member: 300 EUR

C-member: 200 EUR

In 2022 the Council decided to free the youngest children under 12 years from license fees, which decreased the incomes from gymnasts' licenses. The aim was to help the children to participate in competitions and to grow the gymnasts base for the future. Incomes suffered also from decreased number of participants in competitions due to difficult economic situation in many members countries, increased international travelling costs and the restrictions of competing due to the war in Ukraine. To secure organizing the competition events even with less participants, IFAGG Council halved the competition organizing fees for 2022, which showed in the incomes but kept the number of competitions on good level. The incomes from actual activities were 61 621,00 EUR (76 449 EUR in 2021).

However, the spreading of sport of AGG bloomed and the incomes from membership fees increased, as IFAGG received new members. The incomes from fundraising were 49 561,50 EUR (37 747,00 EUR in 2021). The Ukrainian federation of AGG (FAGGU) was exempted from all the payments for 2022 due to the war in Ukraine.

To continue expanding and to activate current members, IFAGG invested in Development program, which started in autumn 2022 and continues in 2023. In 2022, IFAGG hired an administrative coordinator to run the office operations, digitalized the bookkeeping and changed the bookkeeping service provider from ESLU to Tilbic Oy.

While Covid-19 significantly limited activities during 2020-2021, year 2022 was clearly a more active year in all IFAGG activities and events.

With these activities, the result of year 2022 ended +7 138,97 EUR (+45 536,27 EUR in 2021).

IFAGG did not get subsidies or sponsor support.

IFAGG continues to aim at positive result while investing in spreading the sport and attracting new members and developing the operations.

## Year 2023

IFAGG General Assembly 2022 confirmed to keep membership fees unchanged. Membership fee for A-members is 1200 EUR, B-members 600 EUR and C-members 200 EUR for year 2022. Registration fee for A-members is 400 EUR, B-members 300 EUR and C-members 200 EUR. Registration fees must be paid once (1.) / membership level (when approved as new member for A-, B- or C-level member).

IFAGG Council has kept the gymnast licenses for children under 12 free, but returned to the full competition organizing fees (same levels as in year 2021).

The year 2023 will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IFAGG.

In 2023, IFAGG Council did an additional expense inspection for years 2016-2021 to ensure IFAGG funds have been spent appropriately. No clear misuse was found, and use of money has been according to law and regulations, but there were several cases of lack of transparency. For this reason, IFAGG will continue to put effort in increasing transparency and clarifying financial regulations.