WABA Board Meeting – minutes November 6, 2025

Present: Board members and committee representatives
Previous Minutes: 23 October meeting approved

Key Discussion Points

1. Conference Report (October 5)

A preliminary conference report was reviewed. It was clarified that the document currently available represents individual reflections rather than the **official report** of the organizing committee. The verified report is expected to be delivered **between November 14–15**, after which the Board will publish an official summary.

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2. AWF Agreement and Letter of concern about Aguahara

No reply has yet been received to the formal correspondence sent to AWF. The Board recognized that the delay may be linked to personal circumstances within the AWF leadership. The organization remains focused on registry updates and drafting its internal statutes, which are expected to be finalized **early next year**.

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3. AWF Registry Update

It was reported that approximately **60 % of registry issues** have now been resolved. Progress includes technical improvements and reinstatement processes for instructors returning after extended absences.

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4. Instructor Qualification Review

A case was reviewed involving a candidate whose instructor eligibility was questioned. The Board reaffirmed that the individual must **repeat the Assistant Training Course (ATC)** before qualification can be granted. Coordination with the relevant Ethics Committee will determine who formally communicates this decision.

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5. Liaison Member Role

The Board clarified that liaison members serve as **links between committees and the Board**, ensuring effective information flow. They attend committee meetings and hold advisory voting rights within those committees but **do not exercise executive power**.

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6. Developments in Japan

Concerns were raised regarding teaching and organizational approaches in Japan. The Board noted that an excessive focus on short-term provider contracts could limit practitioner growth and risk creating a **territorial teaching structure**, which is contrary to WABA's collaborative mission. A written response will address these concerns constructively.

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7. Latin American Ethics Committee

The composition of the Latin American Ethics Committee was discussed. The Board received 2 more applications and agreed on the need for **balanced representation** and transparency in listing committee members on the WABA website. Steps will be taken to ensure diversity and adequate regional coverage before the next term.

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8. Publication of Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the continued adaptation of internal minutes into **public summaries** supported by editorial and AI tools. The purpose is to maintain transparency while protecting privacy through the removal of all personal identifiers before online publication.

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9. Ongoing Dispute and Legal Correspondence

The Board reviewed the status of **recent controversies** requiring formal response. A carefully worded letter will be issued to address false claims and accusations, ensuring the communication remains professional and legally sound.

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10. 2026 Instructor Conference – Poland

The Board discussed logistical planning for the upcoming **Instructor Conference in 2026**. The event will follow a **dual-format structure**:

- A **public symposium** open to the community.
- An **internal instructor meeting** focusing on governance and training standards.
  Support from the Board for local organizers was reaffirmed.

Decisions Taken

- Await the **official conference report** before publication of conclusions.
- Grant **two additional weeks** for AWF to respond to correspondence.

- Confirm requirement to **repeat the ATC** before instructor qualification.
- Treat correspondence from Japan as constructive feedback rather than a formal complaint.
- Maintain current membership within the Latin American Ethics Committee and invite new participants for regional balance.
- Dismiss allegations of conflict of interest related to instructor activities as **unfounded**.
- Provide **organizational support** to the 2026 Poland Conference.
- Approve the pending **Senior Instructor application** submitted earlier in the year.

Actions To Be Completed

Send condolence message to AWF leadership
Draft and finalize letter on ATC requirement
Prepare report following the upcoming Ethics Committee meeting
Send guidance letter to Japan regarding teaching concerns

Upload edited minutes to WABA website
Notify committee representatives of meeting attendance requirements
Prepare legal response to ongoing correspondence
Prepare follow-up letter confirming Board support for Poland 2026

Summary Focus

The November 2025 meeting reinforced WABA's commitment to:

- Transparent communication across regions.
- Consistent application of training and certification standards.
- Respectful international collaboration.
- Balanced committee participation.

All actions will continue to align with WABA's mission of integrity, education, and community within aquatic bodywork worldwide.