



# February 2023 Federations Focus

International Naturist Federation Newsletter

## New Working group looking at membership and financing of INF-FNI

A new working group, set up to look at the membership and financing of the INF-FNI, will have its first meeting this month (January 2023).

Christo Bothma, our Africa-Asia-Pacific assessor based in South Africa, is chairing the group. It has the following terms of reference:

“The working group will consider the membership system, including how to bring new federations within the INF-FNI's embrace. This might include new forms of membership and greater use of observer status. It should also look at the financing of the organisation: whether selling stamps remains the best way and, if not, what other systems might be preferred.”

At the moment, the rules allow only national Federations to be members of the INF-FNI, and only one such federation from each country may be recognised. Non-national groupings, and organisations representing several federations, are not eligible. The rules concerning observers were relaxed after the World Congress in 2021, so observers now have the opportunity to speak, but not vote, at Congresses.

Other groups, including commercial entities such as resorts, can become extraordinary members but they need the permission of their national federation. Individuals can also become extraordinary members if they live in a country where there is no member federation.

The organisation is financed through the sale of INF-FNI stamps. Federations have to buy a number of stamps equivalent to the number of members they have at the end of every year, and each individual member should carry a stamp on their national membership card.

The working group will consider whether this system needs to be modernized and what alternatives there might be.

Christo has already asked the member federations for their ideas and suggestions and will welcome input. The working group was created following discussions at the World Congress in Luxembourg in October 2022. It is expected to report in time for the next Congress planned for the autumn of 2024.

Any changes will require the agreement of the member federations.

### Events

**10.03. - 12.03.2023**

**EuNat Meeting**

**Bonn, Germany**

Informationens about the event at our webseite:

<https://inf-fni.org/de/eunat-konferenz-2023/>



### Focus April

**Deadline to remit articles:**  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Release of Focus latest:**  
05<sup>th</sup> April 2023

# Hyperrealism at the Maillol Museum in Paris



The Paris Nourist Association (ANP), already well-known as the driving force behind the creation of the naturist park of Paris in 2017 and the naturist museum visits of the Palais de Tokyo in 2018 and the Cinéma-thèque in 2020, collaborated with Tempora (cultural event company) on three naturist evenings at the Maillol Museum in Paris, for the exhibition "Hyperrealism. This is not a body." More than 700 people attended these sessions in November 2022, which began with a press visit, joined by members of the national board of the French Federation of Naturism, and a certain number of journalists who decided to play the game by putting themselves in the real skin of a naturist. Following this success, the museum invited the ANP back for three extra sessions on January 19th, with over 260 visitors.

Like at previous events of this kind in Paris, there was perfect gender parity, with a huge number of young people under the age of 30. Moreover, for nearly half of the participants, it was their first naturist experience. It's very chic, very Parisian, to be able to say that one's initiation into the naturist world was at a museum visit!

The reaction of the guests was interesting. Arriving for their slot, very few dared to look at the president and vice-president of the ANP, who were naked as they greeted visitors and directed them to the changing rooms. On their return, themselves naked, the visitors had already had time to get used to it a little and at the end of their visit many said they were disappointed to have to get dressed and rejoin the "real" world.

The feedback of the exhibition was quite unanimous, with a large number of visitors saying how much they

appreciated the „normal“ pieces, those showing the human body with all its natural attributes, and the look of age and experience visible on certain faces.

From the day after the first evening, many of these new naturists contacted the ANP to thank them for the organisation and to ask for more information about our activities. The opening of the naturist park and the visit to the Palais de Tokyo allowed the ANP to increase the number of club members. They hope to relive this thanks to the success of this new event.





# Naturistinfesta 2023



The Italian Naturist Federation (FENAIT) promoted and organised #Naturistinfesta, a national gathering proposed to Italian naturists at the end of summer, from September 9th to 11th 2022, at Suncave Gardens in Cerveteri (near Rome), in collaboration with UNAIT, the Lazio Region naturist association.

The 3 days were characterised by a rich and varied programme aimed at making the weekend as enjoyable as possible, with fun activities, good food and relaxation in the beautiful park and swimming pool of the accommodation site.

On the first day, despite a national train strike, naturists arrived from all over Italy, and one from France representing the ANP, the Naturist Association of Paris. Sandrine came to the meeting to cement the friendship between the ANP and UNAIT, two recently twinned associations under the INF-FNI's twinning programme, launched this year.

During the event, a group of holistic professionals were available for both individual massages and for group-oriented meditation experiences making the context very welcoming and pleasant.

It was possible to make one's skin even more cheerful and colourful during a collective body painting session which focused on creativity as well as social interaction.

Meditation, yoga and other holistic pursuits were also on offer. Participants enjoyed the contact between body and mind, and the release of energy they felt during these activities.

Other fun activities were offered for small and large groups to allow them to continue to enjoy social nudity.

During the event two photographers worked together to obtain the „best naturist shot“. This idea helped make the event even more enjoyable and harmonious, creating an album of memories of the three days at Suncave Gardens.

On Saturday evening all the participants gathered by the pool for the gala dinner, where a rich buffet with musical entertainment was provided. The evening ended with thanks by the FENAIT President Lele Fornaca and a small gift for all the participants.

The event ended on Sunday at the nearby naturist beach of Sabbie Nere where UNAIT members offered lunch to all naturists on the beach. Here, hospitality, cheerfulness and joy were everywhere. We were also visited by the councillor for social services of the Municipality of Santa Marinella, who was totally in tune with the values of harmony and respect that reigned throughout the event.

#Naturistinfesta was very successful and we hope that it will become an annual event promoted by FENAIT, where Italian and international naturists can form even more social relationships and enrich their personal history, motivated by a strong and authentic passion for naturism and for its increasingly rapid growth.

Gabriella Carrera  
FENAIT Board Member



# 50<sup>th</sup> International naturist swimming gala



From November 4th to 6th 2022, the 50th Anniversary Naturist Swimming Gala took place in Belgrade, Serbia, at the swimming pool of the „25. Maj – Milan Gale Muškatirović“ sports centre.

More than 90 participants from 13 different naturist organisations were present over the weekend. 60 were competitive swimmers, 12 judges and controllers, 1 lifeguard, 1 photographer, 1 journalist, and the rest were representatives of the organisers and guests. This year's gathering was also attended by representatives of EuNat and the INF-FNI.

All participants stayed at the Mona Plaza Hotel in the immediate vicinity of the swimming pool. Everyone received a gift package from the organisers to commemorate the event, the best swimmers received gold, silver and bronze medals for their placements, and the best three federations received cups for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places.

The participants had fun at the gala dinner with good music, and two tours of Belgrade were organised for everyone.

We should especially mention that the guests were allowed to use the space in the hotel without clothes in the places where they mostly gathered, while at the pool everyone except the judges were naked.

The gathering took place in an extraordinary atmosphere of fellowship and, according to the statements of the guests, everyone had a great time in Serbia.

With the help of partner Nenex, a transfer from the airport by luxury bus was provided for all participants. Lunch at the pool was provided in cooperation with the Just Catering company, medals and cups were taken care of by Strong K foundry, and gifts for the participants were provided in cooperation with the Tourist Organisation of Serbia and the Jovšić printing centre.

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# Farewell to George Volak



At the beginning of December I received the news from Jiri Böhm that George Volak had left us forever. Of course I knew that he had health problems for some time, but when news reaches about the passing of someone who was not only a colleague but also a dear friend, you are still shocked and very sad.

George, like me, has been active for the INF-FNI as a CC member since 1998. From 1998 to 2006, he was an assessor for the Non-European Federations. In 2006 he took over the secretariat of the INF-FNI and after President Wolfgang Weinreich resigned for health reasons in 2007, George also held the task of INF-FNI President until 2008. After my election as President, the excellent cooperation with George and Nancy also became a friendship, which continued when both ended their activities for the INF-FNI in 2010.

George, born in the Czech Republic, fled from the previous regime via Austria and Canada to America in his youth. George had a son and a daughter from his first marriage, and with his second wife Nancy he fulfilled a great dream in life. He built and opened a naturist camp near Nashville. The Rock Haven Lodge.

He became a member of the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR) where he was elected president for three terms.

In 2006 he returned to his home country, and from 2015 he was president of the Czech-Moravian Naturist Association. He has made a fundamental contribution to the preservation and development of naturism in the Czech Republic during a difficult period.

George has also left his mark on the Czech Federation and the INF-FNI, for which we are all grateful and we will all keep George's memory alive.



## LE BETULLE Villaggio Naturista

Near the Alps, at 25 km from the center of Turin, 20 minutes from the airport Caselle. Caravans, plots for Recreation Vehicles and tents, completely equipped bungalows, caravans with chalet. Pool, solarium, jacuzzi and sauna. Clubhouse restaurant, petanque, mini-tennis, table tennis, Volleyball. Mountain bike circuits and trails in Park Mandria

**Sights:** Venaria Royal Palace and Park, St. Michele Abbey, Rivoli Castle, Mole Antonelliana, Egyptian Museum, Piazza S. Carlo, Basilica of Superga.

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UNI . Unione  
Naturisti Italiani

# To the cliffs or the mountains? No, to the **Sonnensee**



When you think of a carefree holiday at a campsite, you might think of great areas with big beaches by the sea or have the mountains in mind. The Naturist Family Sports and Nature Camp at Sonnensee doesn't have any of that.

Nevertheless, according to guest ratings, the 650,000 square metre club site of the BffL Hannover e.V. is one of the most popular campsites in Europe. And this for the fourth time in a row! Our team feels confirmed that the idyllic site, located in the heart of the „Altwarmbüchener Moor“ landscape conservation area, with its 170,000 square metre sunny lake and excellent water quality, is an inviting place to relax. The environmentally friendly farm tour and the Hannover package with the huge city forest and the many sights round off the perfect stay. Those who want to experience something different after all the peace and quiet and the many sporting opportunities can cycle or take public transport to the nearby city centre. Because of the many possibilities, many families spend their holidays at Sonnensee.

In the meantime, more than 440 reviews have been given for the NaturistenCamp on camping.info. „Excellent“ is the resulting verdict for the association, which celebrated its 75th anniversary last year with its approximately 500 permanent pitches for caravans and motorhomes and its 60 guest pitches.

The leading European information and booking portal camping.info, with around 90 million page impressions per year, presents an annual award for the 100 most popular campsites in Europe and the 10 best sites from other countries. The award has become one of the most coveted awards in the camping industry and is purely an audience award - without a jury or discretionary decisions.

The basis for this year's award, presented for the 12<sup>th</sup> time by camping.info, is more than 230,000 evaluations from over 150,000 campers. There were more than 23,000 sites from 44 European countries to choose from. Thanks to the tried and tested formula, which primarily takes into account guest satisfaction as well as the number and timeliness of the ratings, not only large sites make it into the ranking.

We think it is great that we have succeeded in being among the most popular campsites in Europe for the fourth time in a row. According to camping.info's evaluation, our Naturist Family Sports and Nature Camp at Sonnensee is ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in Europe, 8<sup>th</sup> in Germany and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Lower Saxony this year. You can find all the information at <https://www.camping.info/award>.

We find it fascinating that camping.info has also compiled a ranking of the most popular campsites for



naturists and the BffL is even placed there as the most popular site. The entire evaluation can be found at <https://www.camping.info/go/fkk>

And then there is a special award: the best overall ranking in the category „friendliness“ also goes to the Sonnensee team this year.

From our point of view, our slogan „Experience naturism in harmony with nature“, coupled with a high level of friendliness, cleanliness, service and quality seems to have been the key to success again this year.

The modern sanitary facilities, the diverse sports facilities, the ten bee colonies and the Sonnensee honey, the large number of high-stem fruit trees and the herb spirals round off our concept.

In recent years, we have also succeeded in receiving a large number of enquiries for membership in the Naturist Camp at Lake Sonnensee through increased public relations work, in expanding the number of members to over 1,500 people and in further developing the association in a way that is robust for the future.

We are also very visible in another area, as the annual „New Year's Nude Swim“ repeatedly attracts dozens of swimmers to Misburg and enjoys great popularity. At this year's 8th New Year's Naked Swim, the water in the beach area of the lake did not have to be specially cleared of ice for the swimmers, as the water was a „warm“ three degrees and the air almost 15 degrees. Of course, the more than 80 spectators duly cheered on the brave athletes as they jumped into the cool water. Afterwards, the brave swimmers met in the nearby sauna area to warm up, where they were already making predictions about how cold the water might be next year at the 9th New Year's Nude Swim.



There is one thing I would like to mention: We are not a campsite! We are something much better. A family sports club for naturists with a great community, a campsite-like infrastructure in a „paradise“ at the Sonnensee at the gates of Hanover.

Come and visit us for a short or longer stay if you are on your way to the north. Further information can be found on our website <https://www.sonnensee-hannover.de>.

**We look forward to seeing you.**

Jan Schlegel, 1st chairman

