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Introduction and Motivation

While I am relatively new to the memory sports community, I find myself really passionate about seeing it reach a new level. I would like to introduce myself with my background in Speed cubing - the sport of solving Rubik's cube and similar twisty puzzles, as fast as possible. I have a long ongoing experience in working for the World Cube Association, which is the governing body of the sport with over 100,000 registered competitors and competitions held in over 100 countries. Over the years, I have found my true passion in working for such a democratic organization working purely around the growth of a sport and the awesome feeling of working with a huge community of similarly motivated individuals all over the world. In this journey, i have acquired a lot of knowledge which can readily apply to a relatively newer organization like IAM to grow steadily in the right direction. It therefore, may not come as surprising that someone you may never heard of before finds himself really passionate to work for IAM. Based on where I come from, it's just another chance of making another community better. I have many ideas that I will elaborate below, though one page is rather short. I understand that most of you will be hearing my name for the first time, and I encourage you to ask questions in the public question round and online meetings to know me more and not just take my word for it.

Ambitions as an IAM International Board Member

Redesigning the website and database

- I am already working with two IAM members on a new version of the IAM stats website. I would like to take it beyond that - enriching it with many more statistics such as medal count and rankings by person.
- Moving to an user account based website, where arbiters and board members have different privileges to manage competitions in a self-service manner. There should be one-click provisioning of a new competition with its registration system and information for public as well as an easy mechanism to upload results.
- Standardizing competition and registration web pages for all competitions is another important step as we go forward. A competitor must be able to consistently register for all IAM competitions with a common interface and all such data be logged on directly to our database.
- A user friendly interface for officials to generate and print memorization papers with customization. As a use case, each competitor may select the layout of his memorization paper, and custom partitions during registration itself and the software gives the organizer just one combined file to print for the competition.
- Adding multilingual support/translations to our website to increase accessibility by a much wider audience.

Public documentation and discussion on our rules

- A key part of a democratic organization is transparency, I would like to ensure that all our rules can be easily accessed through our homepage as well as different versions of them are logged with changes, ideally through Github which has an integrated public discussion platform for continuous improvement with version control.

FAQs and Tutorials on our website

- Providing new users easier access to searching past and future competitions in their country. In the current form, it can be difficult for new users to get started.
- Having dedicated FAQs, written and video tutorials pages for both memory athletes as well as competition organizers will help in much easier and standardized on-boarding for new people to IAM competitions.

Laying the foundation for other teams/committees

- While the IAM International Board might be the most important body for shaping the future of the sport, having more hands working on more specific dedicated tasks can accelerate our progress much faster. I would like to evaluate and institute additional committees with the approval of the board - for marketing, PR, software development, ethics, etc. with a similar transparent election process as the board.

Live Results System

- Currently, excel is used in most places to track results of a competition and then make announcements or share snapshots. With a live results website system, an organizer can enter event results in an excel like sheet but the results get broadcast to anyone in the world, on their mobile phone or PC.

Growth in competitions

- I would make a high priority for IAM that more competitions are held in more countries so that more athletes have a platform to be connected to IAM and our sport can continue to grow steadily. I would be personally willing to travel to new countries in my continent as necessary for the same.

Funding Strategy

- I would like to work on developing a strategy for our organization so we can generate sustainable funding to continue to grow our sport and support our vision of democratizing memory sports.

Communication

- I would propose to make public reports of every competition mandatory, as well as instantiate official social media channels for IAM to interact with the public and promote itself.