

Hungary

THE IV INTERNATIONAL NATURIST SPORTS MEETING AT SZIKSÓSFÜRDŐ NATURIST BEACH AND CAMPING



Viking Photography, Inc. (USA)

The team of "Black Devils", winners of both volleyball tournaments at Sziksósfürdő Naturist Beach & Camping (H)

The IV International Naturist Sports Meeting was held on the grounds of Sziksósfürdő Naturist Beach and Camping from August 12 to 18, 1991.

Organisers and main sponsors of the Meeting were NATOURS KFT that had taken over the management of the area on March 23, 1990; the *Napóra Club* of Budapest, and the East European Documentation Centre on Naturism & Related Subjects (EEDC). Additional sponsors were the company *Florin*, manufacturers of health products, Leif Heilberg and Ferenc Szabó.

The Meeting was declared open at 14:00 hrs on Monday, 12th August, and was attended by a hundred or so naturists. The organisers introduced themselves to the public and introduced also their guests: Irmgard Koch (D) who spoke briefly about her late husband, Adolf Koch, a famous FKK - pioneer and gymnast, and Leif Heilberg, the wellknown naturist photojournalist from San Francisco, who asked participants' cooperation and understanding. Leif

Heilberg was appointed official photographer of the Meeting and carried the special photo tag for easy identification. Other photographers, not officially appointed, were Karel Novák (CS), László Engi (H) and Jerzy Czarnohorski (PL). László Kiss of NATOURS KFT videorecorded the opening ceremony and all subsequent events. However, with the exception of the above - mentioned person, videorecording was not allowed throughout the week.

Interpreters were Gusztáv Hellebronth (German to Hungarian) and Judit Halász (English to Hungarian). Naturists from the following countries attended the Sports Meeting: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland (four families), USA, and the USSR. Later we met a naturist from France and another from Canada!

Various games for children, men and women were held from August 12 to 18. Apart from the track and field events such as high jump, long jump, 100 m run, 10,000 m and

shot - put additional ones were included in, not held in previous meetings, such as billiards, a very popular game with holidaymakers. The programme underwent several changes throughout the week. An excursion to Balatonberény naturist campsite was cancelled and replaced with the billiards competition where young and old competed with one another for the first prize!

Irmgard Koch and Gottfried Müller, special guests, performed Adolf Koch's gymnastics every morning at 09:00 hrs. Frau Koch had taken with her a unique series of colour slides and b & w pictures connected with her husband's work. Those, unfortunately, could not be shown to the public because of unavailability of a slide projector.

At breaks of events and particularly in the evenings the participants enjoyed the Hungarian hospitality and tasted the goulash soup prepared by experts at the camp's special place, pancakes (*palacsinta*) and experienced the so-called *Szalonnasütés* (= bacon toasting).

The buffet was busy throughout the week and one had to stand in the long queue to quench his thirst or get an inexpensive hot-dog or hamburger. The staff were very helpful and prepared delicious meals at competitive prices. A naturist greengrocer visited the area some times and sold peaches, watermelons and grapes for 50. - HUF per kilogramme. There was also a mobile sale of beach towels and children's toys.

The nearby kiosk had on sale major Hungarian and foreign papers and magazines as well as an impressive number of German ones. Much to our regret, we noticed some "girlie" type magazines on display. Holidaymakers could buy suntan lotions, mosquito repellants, shampoos, deodorants and other useful products. Gabriella Dévény and Éva Madarász served the naturists patiently.

Edit Regós offered pedicure and manicure services, while her husband, Károly, a professional masseur, took care of naturists' needs.

László Kiss videorecorded every day all events. Participants could watch his release on the T.V. on the same evening.

There was a short break on Thursday, 15th August, on account of unpropitious weather. On that day Judit Halász organised a drawing competition for children at a nearby teachers' hostel. Otherwise, the weather was fine with high temperatures and sometimes strong wind.

NATOURS KFT had hired out a helicopter type MD-500 that landed on the grounds on the 12th of August and remained until the 20th. They offered ten-minute flights over Kiskundorozsma and Szeged for the price of 3,900. - HUF. Three adults and two children, all in the nude, with the exception of the pilot, could fly at one time.

Another surprise offered by the organisers was the calling of a local music band, *The Riverside*, a five - member group that played in the nude one evening American country tunes and Hungarian ones as well.

On Saturday, 17th August, at 18:00 hrs the E.E.D.C. celebrated its fourth anniversary. Angelos Mimikopoulos offered 100 pancakes (palacsinta) filled with chocolate and jam to children who had been waiting impatiently in front of the wooden bench. Afterwards, in a moving ceremony, he presented Frau Koch with a bunch of pink gladioli and a bottle of Hungarian champagne, who in turn offered him a towel with the emblem of her Berlin - based naturist club. Judit Halász in appreciation of her services to the E.E.D.C. received a framed picture of Al Vandenberg's nude photograph "Birthday Party", size 52x45 cm. Then, the five-kilo marzipan cake with chocolate covering and four candles was placed on the bench. The cake carried the words "E.E.D.C. 1987-1991" and "NAPÓRA KLUB 1988-". The candles were blown out immediately. Gabriella Dévény who had also received a bunch of pink gladioli cut it into small pieces with the applause of the gathered.

The closing ceremony took place at 15:00

hrs on Sunday, 18th August. Gabriella Dévény, Judit Halász and Angelos Mimikopoulos thanked all for their participation and announced the names of winners. Children received toys; women and young ladies Florin's herbal products; men certificates and a special ceramic medal offered by NATOURS KFT. E.E.D.C. offered pens and copies of the special poster they had prepared. The Napóra Club toys and copies of Miklós Bende's naturist book.

On August 20th, László Kiss interviewed Angelos Mimikopoulos with the help of György Gyúszú who acted as interpreter. He also interviewed some of the day visitors and holidaymakers. They were asked to comment on the Sports Meeting and spoke in flattering terms of the organisers.

In general, the Meeting was met with success in spite of some thorny issues such as the photography one that could ruin the efforts of six months.

To start with, there was lack of interpreters. Foreigners could not read or understand Hungarian. The week's programme had been put into Hungarian only. Other holidaymakers did not understand German, and they had to inquire about the programme. Later, every day's programme, as amended, was announced with a loudspeaker.

However, the most serious issue was the photography one. Not only Leif Heilberg but the writer of this article had to face an opposition from a limited number of Dutch and Belgian naturists who demanded the owners to ban photography on the grounds! They repeatedly stated that photography was not allowed in their clubs. It was pointed out that Sziki was not a private club but a holiday naturist resort. Besides it, they tried unsuccessfully to persuade the Hungarians not to be photographed, with poor excuses such as "don't sell your body to commercial magazines!" Some confused naturist photography with pornography. They seemed to be very concerned about themselves. They further compared their countries with Hungary regarding naturist exploitation.

The photographers were also upset and repeatedly contacted the owners who tried to

quiet them down. Karel Novák (CS) left the camp in disgust before the end of the Meeting.

Frankly speaking, some photographers focused on young ladies and pretty women's private parts, in particular a reporter of a Budapest paper who entered the grounds clothed and began taking close-ups of girls. No one informed the holidaymakers about him. Later, he took off his clothes and presented his credentials to the Dutch protesters.

The editor of NZS was approached many times by angry holidaymakers asking him to put an end to the commercial exploitation of naturists by naturists. He advised the protesters that no one could take their picture without having obtained necessary permission. He further pointed out that if they did not want to be included in a group photograph during the volleyball tournament that the E.E.D.C. organised, they had to stay out of the range of cameras. During the volleyball pictures were not taken at least of the teams with Dutch players.

Angelos Mimikopoulos was also disappointed at the turn of the entire situation and decided to leave the campsite. Leif Heilberg persuaded him to stay and fight for the majority. The "troublemakers" could not ruin the Sports Meeting. Sometimes, AM liked to cycle to the nearby village of Kiskundorozsma and enjoy the scenic surroundings of Sziki instead of getting involved in endless arguments with the Dutch protesters.

One is entitled to his own opinion, but has no right to interfere in other people's decisions. The Hungarians and the foreigners had been advised of photography requirements in the beginning of the Meeting. *They should have read the English translation of the camp's rules at the reception-office.*

To avoid another traumatic experience in the near future, the E.E.D.C. Budapest Branch has been authorised to draw up new guidelines regarding photography and videorecording. E.E.D.C.'s photographers and correspondents have been advised of the journal requirements through a circular letter that is published below.

A. Mimikopoulos



EEDC - Szikósfürdő Naturist Beach & Camping (H)