



Burgi Beste

Letter of Motivation

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Dear colleagues and friends,

with this letter I want to express my candidacy for election as a Continental Board Member for the IFSC Executive Board. I would be honored to be part of the leadership of the IFSC for the next 4 years (2025 - 2029).

The IFSC has set itself a wonderful vision that is still absolutely relevant today:

- To make the world a better place through Sport Climbing
- To grow the Sport Climbing community and to foster the furtherance of Sport Climbing worldwide

In addition to this overarching vision, my focus is on the following goals:

- Strengthen sport climbing through **strategic leadership** supported by a broad majority of its members
- Lead the operational work through **acting responsibly** based on comprehensive **communication and transparency**
- Strengthen the **participation of member federations** under the coordination of their Continental Council Boards
- **Focus** the development of sport climbing on **continents outside Europe** by expanding continental and regional competitions, intensifying the **education of officials** and providing targeted **support for athletes**

If I am elected to the Executive Board of the IFSC as a Continental Board Member, I will work hard to achieve these goals over the next four years.

Certainly, these goals can be achieved with different perspectives and approaches.

My approach is primarily based on **high-quality teamwork** in a diverse Executive Board, in which responsibility and work is shared across all shoulders and **decisions** are made **democratically on the basis of well-founded technical expertise**. Here I would try to change the **culture of leadership**.

Equally important is the **involvement of all member federations**, in particular the **continuous involvement of the Continental Council Boards**, as this is where the experts from the very differently developed regions of our climbing world sit. It is important to take the **different needs**, especially the cultural aspects of for example our African, Asian or South American member federations seriously.

Cooperation at eye level is important to me, but with sufficient **freedom for the Continental Councils** so that they can also fulfill their responsibilities by making appropriate independent decisions, of course always in line with the vision, mission and goals of the federation as a whole.

To manage the federation in such a way, **the transformation from an operational to a strategic leadership** is necessary: In future, the members of the Board should develop the strategic guidelines for the further development of our federation together with its members, the NFs, and on behalf of the boards of the Continental Councils, which will then be passed on to the employees in the Office for operational processing via the Secretary General. This relieves the burden on the voluntary board and gives the employees a clear directive.

In addition to a change in leadership and a change in work with the Continental Councils, I also believe a **correction in the sporting focus** is necessary. In the past more than 10 years, there has been a clear focus on the Olympics, with inclusion in the Olympic summer family being the primary goal. Much has been achieved here thanks to the outstanding work of Marco in particular. Sport Climbing will become a program sport in 2028 and Para Climbing will be included for the first time. Thanks to its young, dynamic image, our sport has a much more secure future than many other sports. It is now important to continue **focusing on the Olympics, but without neglecting the sport as a whole**.

The overarching goals of the IFSC with regard to the further development of the sport as a whole must be kept in mind at all times and work on their implementation.

In doing so, we should focus even more on the needs of our athletes. After all, the **athletes are at the center** of everything we

do and we decide. At the same time, we need to make our **competitions** more attractive and **strengthen their marketing position** in order to counter private commercial interests. Our guiding principle is to develop our competitions and the sport as a whole with all aspects of **sustainability** in mind.

This can only be achieved if everyone works together and there is a certain shift in the focus of everyone's work towards concentrating more on the tasks between the Olympic Games. In addition to the good cooperation with the IOC and the intensive networking in Lausanne, we must continuously work towards the **professional development of our events** in all regions of the world, and this **also** applies to the **Para Climbing competitions**.

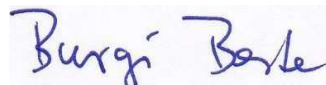
I am convinced that these statements have made it clear which goals I am committed to and where I would set my priorities if you would elect me to the Executive Board.

I am looking forward to fruitful discussions in Cyprus on these strategical goals. But I am also available for questions, suggestions and discussions in the run-up to the elections. Write to me, call me, make an appointment for a video conference with me. I look forward to every exchange.

Otherwise, all that remains for me to say is: See you in Cyprus at the beginning of April.

Thank you very much for reading my motivation letter!

Best regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Burgi Beste". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue background behind the text.

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