



## **Meet the presidents. February 26<sup>th</sup> 2025**

### **ISPO Croatia, Dean Werner**

#### **Describe ISPO Croatia:**

ISPO Croatia has about 119 members, yet it is always hard to find ambitious people to be in the national board. The board is formed by 1 or 2 persons.

Every prosthetist in Croatia is automatically ISPO member. Other professionals are member of their own society. They do not see the urge also to be ISPO member because wages are not too sufficient and when ISPO Croatia is involved in congresses, it is with other scientific societies.

There is no formal education for Prosthetists in Croatia, prosthetists learn their skills on the job.

#### **How visible is ISPO Croatia?**

ISPO Croatia has shown some power to the government. Because the missing indexation and a giant inflation P&O wasn't affordable anymore. A long strike did make the difference.

ISPO Croatia has problems organizing scientific congresses. Most current congresses are old news, rewritten old content. They lack organizing committees, and sufficient speakers.

#### **How do you see ISPO international and what can we do to improve?**

- We experience difficulties with the annual payments. Even though we give an excel sheet some members are booked as non member.
- We hear that members do not visit the ISPO webpage, and thus also facilities as ISPO Learn, because it is sometimes hard to log in. People forget their membership number, their login code and resetting that takes too much time. Isn't it possible to develop other ways of login in (like a authentication app or something like that)?
- For most of our members (mostly CPO) ISPO is too scientific.  
As we learn on the job our scientific content should rather be more practical. The format: give abstracts, translated in plain language (with native speakers or with Chat GPT), and then translated into practical consequences .
- We surely do embrace sharing of webinars worldwide with the same scope as the previous point
- We have difficulties organizing proper congresses. How can ISPO help us leveling up the regional skills and knowledge?
  - More webinars, maybe in local more local language?
  - Stimulating annual regional congresses with surrounding countries?



**International Society for  
Prosthetics and Orthotics**

Learn. Exchange. Support. Innovate.

- Help with national congresses, for instance with a databank of lecturers, assistance in the organization (all aspects from invitations to payments to PR)

**International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)**

A Non-Governmental Organization in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.  
In Official Relations with the World Health Organization.

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