submitted by Kevin Givens, chairman

The WFDF Entourage Commission is composed of representatives of key groups of an international athlete’s Entourage as are Coaches, Team Managers and Administrators, Doctors/Physiotherapists and other staff.

Whilst the operations of the Commission are still at their beginning the tasks and importance of the topics which they have to tackle have increased.

The Olympic Movement has focused on the Entourage with several initiatives which the Commission will seek to transport to WFDF’s governance henceforth.

This includes the impact of the new rules of the Anti-Doping Code on the Entourage as the new rules as of 1 January 2015 have increased responsibility and liability of the members of the Entourage.

Role of the WFDF Entourage Commission:

- to advise the WFDF Board of Directors on questions related to the Athletes Entourage
- to develop ideas and initiatives to make sure that the Entourage serves in the best interest of athletes
- to ensure representation of the Entourage within the WFDF governance structures
- to promote WFDF rules and regulations concerning the Entourage within their domains
- to monitor and develop the WFDF Guidelines for the Conduct of the Athletes’ Entourage
- and make recommendations to the Board of Directors

The most recent addition to the Commission is Peter Kramer (HUN) who joins as an experienced sports administrator and Team Manager as well as event organizer. With this addition the Commission will target now establishing a initial report on its experience what WFDF should do to better to support the work of the athlete’s Entourage at WFDF sanctioned events and thus help athletes improve performance.

We will brief Congress in which direction the work of the Commission might go moving forward soon.

Other Commission members include:

Jeff Cruickshanck - A five time Canadian National champion, as well as a two-time UPA Champion, as a member of the club open team Furious George, Jeff Cruickshanck has represented Canada at four WFDF World Championships (earning two gold and one bronze medal) and two IWGA World Games (gold 2001; Bronze 2005). After retiring from competitive play in 2007, he served as coach of women’s team Traffic from 2008 to 2012, as well coach of the Team Canada at the World Games in 2009. Cruickshanck is COO of Tom Harris Cellular, and is responsible for the sales and operations of 200+ people in approximately 50 locations in BC and Alberta, Canada.

Kevin Givens (Chairman) - A member of the WFDF Board of Directors as chair of the Freestyle Committee, Kevin Givens has worked as Intramural and Sports Club Supervisor at the University of California, Santa Cruz, USA since 1988. As executive director of the World Flying Disc Federation, he played a critical role in the management of numerous WFDF Championship events including the WUCC, WU23, WJUC and World Games. Givens holds numerous titles in the sport of Freestyle, and has served as assistant director (1985-1995) and competition director (1985-1995, 2006-2008) of the Freestyle Players Association.
Greta Hunt - A Level 1 Coach as certified by the Australian Flying Disc Association, Greta Hunt has extensive experience as a player, coach and manager of Junior, Under 23 and adult teams representing Australia at the World Championship level. While employed as Development Officer for the Victorian Flying Disc Association, she supported club development and implemented Ultimate education programs for students, teachers and coaches, liaised with city councils, established new league centers, and provided website administration.

Laura Partridge - In addition to serving as a physiotherapist for the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics, Laura Partridge has served as physiotherapist for the 2012 Great Britain Open Ultimate team as well numerous UK training camps. Since September 2012 she has been employed as a Musculoskeletal Physiotherapist with responsibility for the rehabilitation of acute and chronic injuries among army infantry personnel prior to deployment to Afghanistan and Mali.

Dr. Otto Bernhard - A member of the German National Open Ultimate team since 2007 (and captain since 2011), Otto Bernhard has participated in three WFDF World Championships and seven European Championships in his more than fifteen years of participation in competitive Ultimate. Since 2009 he has served as chairman of the Ultimate Division, and from 2010 to 2011 as Vice President of the Board, of the German Frisbees Sport Association (DFV). A native of Germany, who has also lived in Tokyo, Japan; Toronto, Canada; and Leeds, UK; Bernhard works in the pharmaceutical industry as a process chemist.

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