

Asia Flying Disc Federation (AFDF) – statistics and development report for Congress Royan 2017

**by Caroline Malone, AFDF Deputy Secretary General, member of the WFDF Sport for All and Development
Commission and WFDF Board of Directors at-Large member**



The foundation meeting of the Asia Flying Disc Federation (AFDF) as the continental association of WFDF for Asia took place on 3 December 2011 in Kaohsiung (Chinese Taipei) on the occasion of WFDF Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championship (AOUC) 2011.

The purpose of AFDF is to develop Flying Disc Sports in Asia as World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) branch organization, to make Flying Disc Sports an Asian Games Sport, and to support WFDF Asia Oceanic Championships.

AFDF members are the WFDF regular and provisional member countries and regions in Asia. AFDF associate members are WFDF regular and provisional member countries and regions in Oceania.

At the time of the foundation of AFDF as branch WFDF counted ten regular and provisional members in Asia: Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, Philippines Singapore, and South Korea. Additionally the following countries from Oceania were represented by AFDF as continental WFDF branch in the sense of associate members: Australia and New Zealand.

In the six years since the establishment the following countries from Asia / Oceania were admitted for membership: Afghanistan, Cambodia, Qatar, Thailand, United Arab Emirates (Asia) and Guam (Oceania).

In 2017 AFDF counts 18 out of the 75 WFDF members.

AFDF President is Fumio Morooka (JPN), assisted by AFDF Secretary General Michael Hu (TPE) and Deputy Secretary General Caroline Malone (QAT).

The office of AFDF is set up in Taichung (Chinese Taipei) in the Chinese Taipei Flying Disc Association (CTFDA) Headquarters.

AFDF is the second largest continental association for flying disc sports after the European Flying Disc Federation (EFDF) with regard to the number of member countries.

The 2017 WFDF Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championships will be held in Manila (PHI) on 17-20 August 2017.

The AFDF representative in the WFDF Sport for All / Development Commission Caroline Malone has co-ordinated the 2016 Development coaching clinics in Asia (Hong Kong, Philippines and India), see the separate report annexed hereto as Annex 1.

The Commission has again awarded grants for important development projects for Asia in 2017.

Another report shows the development with regard to the MENA 2017 tournament Annex 2.

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A photograph of two athletes in a competitive flying disc match. One athlete in a red and white uniform is reaching out to catch a disc, while another in a blue and white uniform is also reaching for it. The background shows a stadium with rows of grey and yellow seats. A semi-transparent black banner is overlaid across the middle of the image.

Coaching Development Program

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An Asian Flying Disc Federation report on the provision of coaching education toward the development of Asia's future coaches, leaders and Asian federation training programs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following document is a report on the 2016 AFDF Coaching Development Course prepared by AFDF to WFDF.

The 2016 AFDF Coaching Development Program provided high quality 3rd party accredited training in Hong Kong, India and the Philippines (“Host Nations”) in November and December 2016. Coaching Development Courses took place at each location, in most cases alongside existing and established major or international events. Those attending the Coaching Development Course were shown how to coach ultimate, lead a team and run coaching sessions for others. The Coaching Development Course was provided by UK Ultimate’s Coaching & Development Manager Liam Kelly to UKU Level 1 & 2 standard. Host Nations will be provided, in the coming months, the structure, fundamentals, course material and syllabus to enable the establishment of a self-sustained coaching program in each Host Nation. In addition, as part of course completion training, delegates of the Coaching Development Course ran, with third party assistance, a clinic for local players and or associated event participants.



HONG KONG

Summary

The Hong Kong clinic (“HKC”) took place according to the following schedule:

Saturday, 5 November 2016:

9am – 2pm: Phase 1 Classroom

3pm – 6pm: Phase 1 Practical

Sunday, 6 November 2016:

10am – 1pm: Phase 1 Classroom

2pm – 5pm: Phase 1 Classroom

Wednesday, 9 November 2016:

9:30pm – 11:00pm: Phase 2 Practical

Liam did an excellent job delivering the HKC. The participants found the course engaging and enjoyable with its mixture of theory, problem solving scenarios, and practical exercises. The major topics participants learned included:

- SOTG as a concept, and its importance to the self-officiation model;
- teaching players the skill of self-officiation;
- a coach’s responsibility for the safety of his/her players and planning for possible risks;
- players’ different learning method preferences;
- drill design (identifying the problem/goal, breaking down the drill into its constituent parts, equipment and safety planning);
- skills for beginners (throwing, catching, pivoting/faking, cutting, marking/forcing); and
- producing micro/macro plans for a season.

In total, the participants were in the classroom for 11 hours, and on the field for 4 ½ hours.

Attendees

The HKC was attended by 21 men and 9 women. This met the 25% target of women participants/women coaches set.

Lessons Learnt

From an operational perspective, the HKC ran very smoothly. More field time would have been useful for the Phase 1 Practical session, but this was constrained by the practicalities of field availability.

As the team lead for the overall program, it was at times difficult to co-ordinate and liaise with many different parties across different timezones. In particular, finalising the “exact” budget between three different countries and four different parties was difficult. While the program was successfully completed, I believe this part of the process could have been made easier with quicker and better communication from all parties involved.

HONG KONG

Recommendations for Future Action

The participants at the HKC could be roughly divided into two groups:

1. ultimate players looking to learn how to coach in general; and
2. physical education teachers looking to learn how to teach ultimate to students.

While the physical education teachers certainly found the HKC useful, it appeared that the content of the HKC appeared to be geared towards the former group, and less so towards the latter.

From HKUPA's perspective, while this is most certainly a positive for our members looking to become coaches, we feel that the rapid growth of the sport is more likely to be achieved by physical education teachers who are not ultimate players due to their position in schools and their ready access to students.

As such, it may be in WFDF's interest to develop another course for physical education teachers with less emphasis on safety, learning method preferences, drill design and micro/macro planning, and more emphasis on teaching the skills and strategies useful for ultimate (e.g. how to throw different curves, different types of throws, commonly seen stack formations, commonly seen zones, etc.). That said, there are already many resources online catering to this need, e.g. Rise Up.

THE PHILIPPINES

Summary

The schedule of the clinics was as follows:

November 12, 2016

8:30 - Registration
9:00 - Start of Classroom
12:00 - Lunch Break
13:00 - Resume of Classroom
16:00 - Start of Practical Session of fields
18:00 - End of Session

November 13, 2016

10:30 - Start of Classroom
12:00 - Lunch Break
13:00 - Resume of Classroom
15:00 - Start of Practical Session on fields
14:30 - End of Session

For two days the participants were always engaged with the manner Liam lead the clinic. Everyone was open to new approaches in simple challenges that coaches usually face in ultimate and in other sports. The slides were simple to understand but also very challenging to participants to answer and take part in, especially on the second day were it was a group exercise where the participants were divided into groups and each team handled a type of team and were given scenarios that they had to face while at the same time given another challenge halfway through the exercise.

Similar to the Hong Kong Leg, Liam focused on the following points:

- SOTG and it's importance in understanding how to play the game of Ultimate and being self Officiated
- The many roles a coach takes on with his team
- Assessing the many dangers during practices and events
- Teaching different players the same things
- Designing drills (identifying the problem/goal, breaking down the drill into its constituent parts, equipment and safety planning);
- Producing micro/macro plans for a season.

Attendees

A total of 24 attendees participated in the course.

Lessons Learnt

It was nice to see a different approach towards how the game was taught. This was apparent in the method on how Liam conducted the class, starting with SOTG, which took up majority of the first day of classes. The lessons challenged coaches to address certain scenarios with different kinds of players (ex a really fit player but beginner and a beginner that is not so fit). The lesson also helped coaches with how to plan out a practice and a season from practices and drills to tournaments. Apart from these lessons

THE PHILIPPINES

the clinics also provided applications of all the things the participants learned followed by a critique by fellow participants and Liam himself.

Recommendations for Future Action

As much as this clinic was beneficial to the participants that were there, it was indeed too short of a time and was lacking since the country is huge and a lot of coaches from different provinces couldn't attend due to travel costs.

We recommend that this clinic be done again and if time permitting, allow Liam to travel the Philippines and coach in several cities that have a lot of ultimate present in them.

INDIA

Overview

The Coach Development Clinics in India were conducted at two locations, due to demand from several communities in India and the geographical diversity of the participants. The South Clinic was attended by 34 coaches and took place in Hyderabad, on Dec 8-9, ahead of the weekend Hyderabad Hat tournament. The North Clinic was held in New Delhi, the following weekend on Dec 17-18, and was attended by 30 coaches.

Lessons Learnt

The clinics were first of their kind in India, with the focus on coach development rather than players. The micro and macro planning modules were especially well received, along with presentation skill development and tips to make drills relevant and interesting. The SOTG module was engaging and timely for India's domestic competition, specifically the discussion about the different approaches in interpretation of rules between WFDF and USAU (US based college and club ultimate is closely followed in India, while we play according to WFDF rules).

Liam did a remarkable job of keeping the participants engaged across theory and practical sessions. We were short on time, especially in the North Clinic, and Liam ensured that it was used in an efficient manner, without leaving any content uncovered. He gave breaks rather thoughtfully, understanding how much time the participants needed to absorb whatever they had heard and discussed, and then to prepare themselves for learning and doing more.

Gender Module

We added a 2-hour module on inclusivity, focused on gender, as India is largely a mixed ultimate nation. The session was designed by Liz Haynes, Director of Bridging the Gaps Ultimate Youth Camps; it involved considerable participation from coaches, drawing upon culturally relevant issues from coaches' experiences with regards to playing and coaching mixed ultimate, with Liam pitching in from his experiences from different countries/communities. We received positive feedback from the coaches about the module, and we felt that it should be a standard module for all future coach training sessions in India. We can share the consolidated lesson plan from both clinics with WFDF if requested.

Recommendations for Future Action

The clinic was beneficial to India's young ultimate community. In future clinics, it would be helpful to alleviate problems in content delivery due to language by developing pictorial-heavy curriculum and booklets that can be retained by coaches. In our clinics, we grouped participants based on language skills to enable on-the-fly translation that occasionally caused delays.

We are excited about the development of Coach Educators for India – we are in the process of identifying 8-10 such coaches and we would like to develop a plan with WFDF/Liam and the Coach Educators to continue coach development in India.

INDIA

South Clinic Summary

Day 1, Thursday 8th Dec

9am - 1pm: Classroom

1pm - 2:30pm: Break

2:30pm - 4pm: Classroom

4pm - 6:30pm: Practical session

Day 2, Friday 9th Dec

9am - 12noon: Classroom

12pm - 2:00 pm: Break

2pm - 6 pm: Practical session

Day 3 and 4, Saturday 10th Dec and Sunday 11th December

7am - 6pm: Hat tournament in Hyderabad.

The Hyderabad Hat tournament provided a great opportunity for coaches to implement what they had learned in the clinic. The tournament's theme was "Learn and Grow" and the teams were composed of experienced players grouped with new school-age players from inner-city low-income schools and from the private Aga Khan school. A majority of the participant coaches (25 of 34) played in the tournament along with Liam and it turned out to be a wonderful experience for the young players.

South Attendees

The clinic was attended by 34 participants, 23 men and 11 women (32%).

North Clinic Summary

Day 0, Friday, 16th Dec

Informal "meet and greet" session for participants with Liam, late evening, at the Ashoka University campus, followed by a pickup game with participants and college students.

Day 1, Saturday 17th Dec

9am - 1pm : Classroom

1pm - 2:30pm : Break

2:30pm - 5:30pm : Classroom

5:30pm - 8:30pm : Break

8:30pm - 11:30pm : Practical session

Day 2, Sunday 18th Dec

9am- 12noon : Practical Session

12- 2:00 pm : Classroom

INDIA

North Attendees

The clinic was attended by 30 participants, 18 men and 12 women (40%).



2016 Middle East & North Africa Ultimate Club Championships
Tournament Report



Main Details

Dates: 18-19 November, 2016

Host City: Amman, Jordan

Teams

Number of mixed teams: 12 Total number of players: 220 (approximately)

Representative Countries:

- **Jordan (3)**
- **Lebanon (2)**
- **United Arab Emirates (2)**
- **Palestine**
- **Egypt**
- **Qatar/Bahrain (mixed)**
- **Saudi Arabia/Bahrain (mixed)**
- **International (mixed)**

Key Successes

1. New teams registering for WFDF country membership
2. Building upon success of previous year's tournament
 - a. Increased from 5 to 12 teams
 - b. MENA region country representation increased from 3 to 8 teams
3. First international Ultimate tournament to ever be held in Jordan
4. Visibility of the sport increased in Jordan and across wider region

5. Press received from:
 - i. AP - <https://youtu.be/wShdxU3WaDc>
 - ii. WFDF - <http://bit.ly/2kd2huc>
 - iii. Local Press
 - iv. Palestine: <http://bit.ly/2i6zgyG>

6. Amman Ultimate formed first governing committee to facilitate the tournament which has helped facilitate other growth and development activities.

7. Formalizing the MENA Ultimate Federation as a mechanism to promote coordinated growth and development in the region progressed.

Key Challenges

1. Cost of tournament remains a barrier for many players or teams that would like to attend but can't afford. Key expenses this year were travel costs (not tournament fees).
2. Obstacles to having athletes from all countries in this volatile region playing together. This requires further thought and discussion.

Communications

Registration Mechanism: Ultimate Central

- http://ultimatecentral.com/en_us/e/2016-mena-club-championships

Promotion: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

- <https://www.facebook.com/events/327618557571010/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/MENAUltimate/>
- <https://twitter.com/MENAUltimate>

Organizing Committee: Members of the informal MENA Organizers Committee

- Caz Malone – Qatar
- Patrick Fourcambre-Maye – UAE
- Johanna Von Toggenburg – Lebanon
- Ibrahim El-sayed – Egypt
- Nate Harper - Jordan

Host Club: Amman Ultimate Club & Committee

- Nate Harper – President
- Colin Campbell – Tournament Organizer

Field Setup

Locations: Three separate football clubs south of Amman and north of airport with Fieldturf in new excellent condition.

Staff: Timekeeper (volunteer), Scorekeeper (volunteer), First Aid Medic (paid)

Finances (all in Jordanian Dinar – JD) *1 JD = 1.4 USD

Expenses: Fields, Food, Water, Transportation, Signage and Trophies, First Aid Medic, Merchandise to sell = Total: 6765

Income: Team Fees: 3528 (400USD/team x 12 teams) Merchandise Sales: 2523

Amman Ultimate Contribution: 714 = Total: 6765

Final Income: 0