

Minutes for Congress 8-10-00

Total number in room at start is approx. 34

Members 16th Annual WFDF Congress

Attendees listed Separately

1. CALL TO ORDER - Opening Remarks - (President- Bill Wright)

Compliments to the Event and Mark Kendall. A great predecessor to The World Games. As hoped, the World Games are creating a trickle down effect of interest in another level of competition.

Goals of the Congress:

-To share visions of what WFDF should do for its members.

-Direction we should take the organization in terms of marketing of the sport and implementing ideas from members.

Announcement from Disc Golf Championships World Games qualifying countries Canada, USA, Sweden, Great Britain, Japan and New Zealand have qualified players to compete in the Disc Golf Championships.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT (Treasurer- Joey Gray)

Formal statement of appreciation to previous treasurer, Johan Lindgren of Sweden. One of the main objectives has been to set up a clear system to track which countries have paid and the history of payments for member countries. Presentation of a summary of profit and loss should covering the current years' and 1999 expenses and revenues. Biggest new contributor is WorldSport.Com. Exclusive to GAISF was the payment of \$50,000 US dollars. Overall due to the amount contributed by GAISF and other disc sponsorships the financial well being of the WFDF is very good. See Treasury Report. Outreach program is what will help the growth of disc sports. What we don't have at this point is a budget for 2001, but we want to gather information from the members to determine the direction we should go beyond administrative expense.

Jeroem Pouels questioned the P&L report. Explained by Joey as software learning. Budget for 2000 unclear as to how to spend money. Outreach must be weighed against other expenditures to help with growth of the sport.

3. GENERAL ORGANIZATION / BY-LAWS

Consideration of formal approval for new member status: (Action Memo #2)

Ireland-Associate Member

Russia- Provisional Member

Hong Kong- Regular Member

Latvia- Provisional Member

Slovak Republic- Regular Member

Spain- Associate Member

Brazil and South Africa- Retroactive Associate Members (1999)

a) It was suggested that a representative of each aspiring nation say a word about their desire to be members of WFDF. Denmark questions if these new countries have true organizations or are loosely organized. In regards to GAISF and doping position, are they prepared to administer what they have to in regard to World Games and future competitions?

**New members Ireland would like to become a new member. Good participation

**Russia 12 years. Teams in four cities. Participate in many events around Russia. 100 players active

**Hong Kong no one in attendance

**Latvia two clubs and 70 players. Tournaments in many parts of the region

**Slovakia has many players few that are very serious. Some freestylers

**Spain has no representatives. Barcelona is the hub. Canary islands.

**Brazil has maybe 100 players mostly in Sau Paulo.

It was decided that a single vote be taken as preliminary approval had been given by board members. A motion was presented by Wright and seconded to vote in new members or up-grade current members' status position. Vote to allow the above countries to become WFDF is unanimous. They pass as new members.

b) A discussion about our paid Board position (Secretary General). The goal is to only have volunteers

on the board. Goal is to have Dan Roddick, the current secretary move off the Board as paid consultant when his position is up 2001. He has indicated his willingness to make this change.

It was determined that a paid Board position is acceptable by the current by-laws. Wright felt it necessary to inform the members and make them aware that the Board was using Roddick as a paid consultant. As well Roddick would maintain his position as Secretary General. Wright expressed that it is eventually the desire of the board to have paid personnel be separate from the board and we would work towards that in the future. Comments from the members were supportive and encouraged expansion of a paid position to support daily activities and specialized tasks.

1) WFDF Non-Profit Status

It was brought to the members attentions that we were having our non-profit status reviewed by legal counsel Brian Murphy. To date no formal response had been issued.

Problem number one is about status of ROC and their members. There is a split between the disciplines. There is only one vote allowed but two people want to represent. The problem of conflict resolution is deferred to Dan Roddick with help for resolution.

4. ELECTIONS

- Election procedure amendment- (Action Memo Item #3)
- Discussion about voting rights of Elected Board of Directors.

Item Three is action item #3. Change the bylaws to have annual election each year rather than to elect board members at Congress. Ask for nominees at Congress but not to have an actual vote. Effort is to connect electronically if at all possible. Strike last sentence of Article III section 2. Action memo three passes amended bylaws allow for elections of new members to be elected in November rather than at the Congress.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE III

2. Election and Term of Directors. At each annual meeting of the Congress the members shall elect directors to hold office for the designated term of office. Each director shall hold office until the expiration of the term for which he or she was elected and until his or her successor has been elected and shall have qualified, or until his or her resignation or removal. Directors shall serve for two year terms, to be staggered as determined by the Congress.

AMEND ARTICLE III, SECTION 2 WILL NOW READ

2. An annual election will be held every second Tuesday of November to elect directors to hold office for the designated term of office. Each director shall hold office until the expiration of the term for which he or she was elected and until his or her successor has been elected and shall have qualified, or until his or her resignation or removal. Directors shall serve for two year terms, to be staggered as determined by the Congress.

**Board Members not present: Dan Roddick, Tammy Pellicane, Seppo Nieminen, Kim Godwin, Paddy O'Neill,

5. STRATEGIC VISION

- WFDF Sanctioned Events
- WFDF Marketing
- Manufacturer relations
- Missionary program - International Outreach

Brainstorming session and vision. Where do the members see us headed in the future?

Do we want to limit ourselves to only World games and our own World Championships? Or do we want to be involved in X-Games, Olympics, Goodwill Games, Masters Games or other opportunities.

VIDEOS

GOVERNMENT CONTACT

OLYMPICS

ASSOCIATIONS-FEDERATION
COACHING WORKSHOP
RULE BOOK
INFORMATION OTHER FLYING DISC SPORTS
PAID PERSON TO LOOK FOR GRANTS
TOURNAMENTS DISCS SPONSORED
BETTER COMMUNICATION
E- SPONSOR
MULTI LINGUAL PUBLICATION
ELECTRONIC BULLETIN BOARD
FLYERS
ONE STOP INFO SITE FOR DISC
GOODWILL GAMES
TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR FUND
FUND RAISING
INTL COACH CLINICS
DRUG POLICY
TD CLINICS
BUILD INFO LIBRARY
COMPUTER SOFTWARE ARCH
MARKETING MATERIALS
UNIVERSITY PROMOTIONS
JUNIOR PROMOTIONS
REGIONAL CONT CHAMPS
OVERALLS
10 YEAR SCHEDULE
TEACHING PUBLICATIONS
SPORTS CONVENTION
DISC CONVENTIONS
BUDGET
BUSINESS PLAN
UNIFYING WFDF AND UPA RULES
MORE SPECTATORS
FORUM FOR EXP RULES
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS SEP.
NEW DISC SPORTS

Eventually we want to have members review budget as well as other items of business up for review on the WFDF web site.

The following is a brainstorming list of many possible topics WFDF could focus on in the next 5 years. After creating the list, each national rep chose their first, second, and third priorities for WFDF, keeping in mind that WFDF serves an international purpose and that many of the ideas are excellent but possibly more appropriate at the local or national levels.

*** #1 choice
** #2 choice
* #3 choice

TOP PRIORITY: WFDF COMMUNICATION - 20 points, 10 nations
World Wide Web
More efficient communication *** Netherlands *** Sweden
2-way communication ** Iceland ** Austria
Communication System Improvement *** GB ***Finland **NZ
*Brazil *Slovakia **Japan
Information

SECOND PRIORITY: EVENTS, DISCIPLINES & SCHEDULE - 17 points,
11 nations
Continental Events **Canada *Sweden
Regional Championships *Iceland *France **Denmark **GB ***US
Add Guts to WUCC & WUGC ** ROC * Canada

Overall
Separate Discipline-Only Events *NZ *Finland
Other Flying Disc Sports
Tournaments Local
SOTG Awards
New Disc Sports

SECOND PRIORITY: MULTI-SPORT GAMES - 17 points, 6 nations
Olympics *** Slovakia *** Taiwan *** ROC
Goodwill Games **Taiwan ***Canada
Drug Policy
Multi-Sports Conventions/Trade-Shows
More Spectators ***Switzerland

THIRD PRIORITY: MARKETING, PR, PUBLICATIONS - 13 points, 6 Nations
Marketing Materials ***Denmark **Slovakia **Brazil
Fliers-Brochures
Library/Archive *US
Teaching Publications ***Italy
Video - Teaching and/or PR
Guinness Book of World Records, Novelty Events
Share know-how to organize disc marketing in national level
**Italy

AGE-GROUPS - 12 points, 7 nations
Juniors Development ***Iceland ***France *Austria *Denmark
**US *Sweden
Review the Age Groups - Junior, College *Japan

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE - 10 points, 5 nations
Job Descriptions - Committees
Policy Guide - Constitution ***NZ **Netherlands *GB
**Finland
Oversight
10-Year Schedule
Budget/Business Plan **Mexico
Associations - Federation

EMERGING NATION OUTREACH - 8 points, 5 nations
Coaching Workshops *Italy **Mexico *Netherlands
Tournament Director Clinics
Discs around the World **Russia **Turkmenistan
Brazilian Discs
Player Clinics

RULES & EQUIPMENT - 7 points, 4 nations
Rule Book - Production *** Japan
Disc Conventions * Taiwan
Unify WFDF & UPA Rules
Develop connection with rules experiments
Multi-Lingual Rules
Multi-Lingual Communication **France *Switzerland

INCREASE REVENUE - 6 points, 3 nations
Fundraising for WFDF ***Austria *Mexico **Switzerland
Sponsor
Grant Writing

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION - 4 points, 2 nations
Government Contact *** Brazil *ROC
Official Donations from Government

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS / STRUCTURE RULE BOOK (Memo Item #4)

- Team Sport Committee (Mead)
- Rules Committee (Roddick)
- Working Committee
- Individual Events Committee

Team Sport Committee Charlie Mead- Identify committee members. Issues being addressed. Ultimate Committee Objectives.

- Standards for tournament play.
- Consistent level of service for players at World Championships.
- Provide advice to tournament directors on various aspects of WFDF tournaments.

How did we get here? Big Bang emphasis on Ultimate. Big Growth in the past two years. WFDF Board and Ultimate Committee. Today's Situation- Mix of good will, word of mouth and individual commitment. Some of the problems are: lack of consistency, variations in quality, and little formal basis for discussion. Some progress with bid proposal and contract have been made. Ongoing work to achieve objectives. A TD Manual has been developed to guide Tournament Directors in their production of major events. A contract with the Tournament Director and the organizing committee has been developed. Communication systems have been put in place to help the production of events. Of course, we are always looking for input from WFDF members and other sources to facilitate ultimate committee organization.

Where next? All documentation is on going and will continue to be developed. Development of WFDF sanctioned events-WUICC, WSCC etc. Responsibility of WFDF Board and Ultimate Committee. . Identification of further action items is on going. An emphasis was made that we will return to the guidelines of the by-laws and structure our committee as they are described. Separate adhoc committees will be established as necessary. It was also indicated that committee chairs will also be voted in by members as are board positions. All this is not new, but needed to be reestablished.

7. SCHEDULING / BIDS REVIEW

- WUCC 2002 - Hawaii
- GAISF / IWGA Schedule

Hawaii has bid for the next World Championships in 2002. The vote was unanimous, but under the conditions that they re-present the bid with a more detailed budget, costing and assurances about the transportation and accommodation issues. It is a solid bid as it stands and good enough to proceed.

Newspaper article is discussed regarding the opening of the new Hawaii complex. Great detail was expressed. The cost to players will be approximately same as here \$160.00 per player. Transit will be free. Grant Wise is believed to be a competent TD. Dates for next worlds in Hawaii are the 2nd week of August. Various questions regarding daylight, grass, fees, UPA responsibility and some other logistical questions.

- Schedule Cycle Review (Rue)

Argument is being presented to go back to a two-year cycle instead of the four-year, which is currently in effect. This is by Rue Veitl. What do we want to do to develop the sport. Is it asking too much for a great event every two years? What do the Ultimate players want? Play more. Is it possible to have a compromise? Every three years. The point was made that some smaller countries might not be able to go to Hawaii, so they might not be able to get to a World Club Championship for eight years. They point was also made that the WFDF is lagging behind the growth of the sport. We need to start a bulletin board to have discussions for feedback. The representative nature of WFDF facilitates that one representative be the ear for many. This decision for a four-year cycle was decided by Congress. This issue is going to be a topic of ongoing discussion. Many points were presented.

The four-year cycle was intended to make it easier for countries to travel by not having to go so far every year. The hope was that a regional event series would develop that allows countries the opportunity to compete in a major event closer to home. Regional event have yet to develop and so it is harder to see this as reality. It was also anticipated that these regional events would be WFDF sanctioned and therefore be a revenue source for the organization since the four year cycle actually makes less revenue because there will be less World Championships. Another concern that the four year cycle would help resolve was the fact that World Championships tournament directors were hard

to come by and less need would help. The regional events would also provide a proving ground of sorts for the TD's to develop. The last point in favor of the four-year cycle was a "prestige" factor would enhance the World title each time it was held. Charlie explained that the decision was made after a long period of discussion that covered several years.

The two or three year cycles as Rue has proposed goes back to what originally was so that countries have an opportunity each year to compete in major World Championships. Several countries have expressed that a World Championships actually helps them solicit their governments for funding as it helps them appear on a world stage. The overwhelming argument for having world titles more often is simply that the players want to play more. This move to a four-year cycle seems to eliminate event rather than create them and the point of WFDF should be to encourage and develop more play around the world. There was also concern by Rue that the decision was not a majority. His concern here is that the decision was made without adequate representation and dispersal of information prior to the vote that was taken.

Of the 23 nations represented at Congress, Japan directly indicated they wanted a return to the previous cycle primarily because it helped them in funding causes. Gary Jarvis, New Zealand, indicated his desire to return to the original cycle of play because of the frequency. All other countries either wanted the change to stay or did not express an opinion. Several European representatives specifically wanted the new cycle so that they could develop European Championships. Support from Germany and Sweden, Finland, France and Italy was expressed for this reason.

Primarily the smaller countries expressed a concern about funding travel each year and the idea of more regionalized WFDF sanctioned events sounds appealing. The item to remain open for discussion and it was promised to Rue that we would develop a discussion area on our web site to get more feedback. Rue had the impression that the individual player was not being represented by a single country vote in the WFDF system.

8. WORLD GAMES (Morooka, Wright)

- Review of qualifying procedures
- Review of Schedule & Site

There were several points of interest that Mr. Morooka has highlighted. As of the time of the meeting the Disc Golf country qualifies had been chosen. Canada, New Zealand, Japan, Sweden, United States and Great Britain are the countries qualified to participate in The World Games. It is now the responsibility of the member associations to pick the athlete representatives to play in Akita. A similar situation will arise with the qualifiers in ultimate.

A Schedule is tentatively set and passed out by Moro as well as information regarding WFDF Officials and Sponsoring Organizations for World Games participants. The World Games comes with a variety of requirements that are not normal for flying disc events. A format for how officials would be selected was also presented by Mr. Morooka at the congress. There are still a few positions to be decided and there is a need for additional volunteers at the site of the games.

There was some discussion about the format that has been set for some time for ultimate play. The 6 on 6 format with 3 men and 3 women met with some dissatisfied representatives. It was explained that these decision were not made without much consideration and the decision had to be made almost 2 years ago. With so many restrictions on the number of players, WFDF established the format based on input from national associations and the restrictions.

A Promotional video was shown about the various new sports being featured in Akita in 2001.

9. WORLD RECORDS

- Review Procedure

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- Date and Time of next congress, next board meeting
- Next Congress in San Diego in 2001.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Bill Wright adjourns the meeting after a 5-hour session.

