Message by the President

Dear WFDF Members and flying disc enthusiasts:

It has been an exciting year for WFDF and all flying disc sports. A huge milestone was achieved when WFDF received Recognition by the International Olympic Committee on May 31 during the SportAccord Convention in St. Petersburg. In its release, the IOC "noted that the WFDF is a rapidly growing Federation with tremendous youth appeal, a strong grounding in Olympic ideals, gender equality and good governance, including WADA compliance.”

Of course, this does not mean that we are a part of the Olympic Games, as there are many further requirements for such consideration, such as having 75 Member countries. We should think about it as being on the “bench” of the Olympics Sports Program, one of 34 members of the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF). We are in a position to have an ongoing dialogue with the IOC staff and we are provided certain financial resources from the IOC. We gain credibility in the world of sports businesses, educators, and governmental authorities, and the visibility of WFDF and flying disc sports is raised with potential sponsors and broadcast media. We have greater access to learn directly from the most organized global sports. In return, we are challenged to fulfill the additional requirements of the IOC and get better at what we do.

Participation in the World Games was our premier event in 2013, held in the beautiful city of Cali, Colombia. The 9th edition of the World Games, which are staged every four years for the non-Olympic sports, featured 2,870 athletes from 90 nations competing in 31 official sports and 5 invitational sports. Over the three days of Ultimate competition from July 28 to 30, there were over 45,000 spectators attending the games among the six mixed division national teams that had qualified for the event. Ultimate was also the most popular of the live-streamed video broadcast, with all games broadcast due to the support of a very successful crowd-funding initiative which raised almost US$15,000 in three days. Congratulations to Team USA for their victory, and to the other finishers Australia, Canada, Colombia, Japan, and Great Britain. Just a week earlier, we hosted the WFDF 2013 World Under-23 Ultimate Championships in Toronto, Ontario, Canada: with 36 teams from 17 nations in 3 divisions and over 900 participants. Congratulations to Team USA who captured Gold in all 3 divisions, as well as Spirit Champions in the Mixed Division. Team Canada finished with 2 Silver and 1 Bronze, Japan achieved 1 Silver and 1 Bronze, and Australia 1 Bronze.

After six days of competition from 22-27 August in Norrköping, Sweden, the WFDF 2013 World Overall Championships (WOC) concluded with the crowning of new open and women’s division champions from the host country. Tomas Burvall of Bollnäs, Sweden, won his second WFDF World Overall gold medal in the open division alongside the women’s gold medalist, Nilofar Mosavar Rahmani of Norrköping, Sweden. Sweden also led the country medal count. The WOC event, held every other year, is the official WFDF championship contesting seven individual field events, including Accuracy, Distance, Disc Golf, Discathon, Double Disc Court, Freestyle and Self-Caught Flight (SCF). A total of 85 athletes from nine countries and three continents were in attendance.

WFDF also sanctioned a number of regional events this year. The largest was the 2013 BULA/WFDF European Championships of Beach Ultimate (ECBU) in Calafell Platja, Spain, co-hosted by the Beach Ultimate Lovers Association (BULA) and the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) from 27-30 June, 2013. A total of 1,150 players from 23 countries participated in the largest Beach Ultimate event, featuring competition in seven divisions, and nine different countries came away with medals. We also sanctioned the PanAmerican Oceanic Ultimate Club Championships which were held in Singapore from 9-11 August, 2013. We co-hosted the US Open with USA Ultimate in early July, a format first introduced last year which brought the best of the North American teams together with several international clubs. We will also be hosting the PanAmerican Ultimate Club Championships in Agua de Lindoia City, São Paulo Brazil from November 13-17, 2013.

On a different note, WFDF has appointed a task force to review its position on the Spirit of the Game and on-field officiation issues for Ultimate. Concerns over overly aggressive play, cheap calls, and protracted discussions in three showcase games over the last two years have prompted calls for WFDF to adopt Observers or even referees. All games in WFDF-sanctioned Ultimate Championships are played on a purely self-officiated basis and, in the large majority of cases, this system works remarkably well, with highly respectful play and few or no incidents, even while maintaining a high level of competition. The key question will be how WFDF ensures that Ultimate athletes play a fair game that is also viewable (interesting for spectators in person and on TV/internet to watch). A 12-person panel led by Ruben Berg of Australia has been appointed and is tasked with presenting a report to the 2014 Congress in Lecco.

Going into year end, we are about to host our elections. We appreciate all of our volunteers and the time they contribute to make flying disc sports better. We have tried to find ways to get more people involved and encourage participation on not only our board but also the on the various WFDF committee and commissions. We are also going to be completing a hiring process for a new Events Coordinator, a part-time paid position, so that we can increase the resources we have to support our increasingly complex events.

We hope you find this Newsletter of interest, as we have tried to pull together the highlights in one place. We digitalized this summer our historical paper newsletters from the 1980s and 1990s and these can be found on our web site. And be sure to check us out on our web site, Facebook, and Twitter accounts for more real time news!

Robert “Nob” Rauch
President
The 2013 edition of the World Games were a huge success for Flying Disc and Ultimate in terms of sporting performance, spectator attendance and public interest as home team Colombia reached the Bronze Medal game which they lost to Canada – but still the crowds cheered their home team to spectacular performances.

The 2013 edition of the World Games was a huge success for WFDF, Flying Disc and Ultimate. A total crowd of some 47,000 spectators attended the three days of competition played in the Pascual Guerrero Olympic Stadium, being the home of the Ultimate event of the World Games in Cali, Colombia from July 28 to 30, 2013.

Six teams had qualified for the event: Canada, USA, Australia, Japan, Great Britain and Colombia as host nation. After the round robin USA and Australia emerged as teams playing the finals and Colombia played Canada for the Bronze medal. And at the World Games the medal games are re-matches.

The IWGA World Games are staged every four years by the International World Games Association (IWGA) for the non-Olympic sports. The 9th edition 2013 took place from 25 July to 5 August in Santiago de Cali, Colombia. 2,870 athletes from 90 nations competed in 31 official sports and 5 invitational sports. The sports on the World Games program are artistic and dance, ball, precision, strength, martial arts and trend sports, Ultimate belonging to the last group.

78 athletes from these, 13 per team, played in the Ultimate Mixed event which is an official sport on the program.
The Bronze began after the three-hour siesta in the afternoon and a TV delay as the international and local broadcasting teams needed time to get everything lined up. Why? Because host team Colombia surprised many by qualifying for the medal round.

Team Colombia had electrified the masses when they beat Great Britain in 13:10 the preliminaries – this being one of the highlights of the Ultimate event. The home team had narrowly lost the game against Japan 12:13…

…but secured its place in the Bronze medal game with a 13:20 win over Canada in the round robin.

Pictures above and below: Home Team Colombia brought home the game against Great Britain by a 13:10 score – a milestone on the way into the Bronze medal game (Pictures by Camilo Tobar / WFDF).
The other games in the round robin produced fantastic pictures and a catching atmosphere:

- Japan vs USA.
- Canada vs Japan.
- Japan vs USA.
- USA vs Great Britain.
This Bronze medal game on the finals day however had a little bit of everything as the re-focused and unified Canadian team that we saw earlier in the day against Japan was once again present and Colombia was focused and ready.

Every point was well-played through the first six with no turnovers from either side.

Canada stretched it deep with Hibbert and Lloyd while Colombia’s leading goal scorer Elizabeth Mosquera collected two more. A critical play at 5-4, Colombia’s advantage. Colombia has the disc on the goal line to go up two. But a rushed endzone shot is too much for Mendoza. Canada streaks downfield and scores in a hurry for a bit of a momentum shift. That momentum carried them to more scores on a sudden rash of Colombia mistakes and half went to the North Americans, 7-5.

Canada won over Colombia – no medal for the home team. But Colombia did not blink. First goal from half is Mosquera finding Yina Cartagena in the back of the end-zone to close within 1 at 7-6. The crowd roared after every Colombian goal and dampened after every Canada play.

Eventually Colombia ties at 8s and the stadium is buzzing again. Cam Harris lofts one deep to Hibbert who makes an outstanding grab over a perfect bid from Mauricio “Choco” Martinez, the veteran who was everywhere in this game.

Martinez responds with a goal to Ibarguen the fleet-footed and then a critical goal Martinez to Yina Mendoza and Colombia had the break advantage! It’s a late-game goal with the time cap looming large. This game featured a ton of calls: picks, travels, fouls, and lots of discussion.
There was too much at stake — every call was discussed at length and the time cap came on after a beautiful Nick Menzies huck to Andre Collins to tie it at 10s, Colombia was on offense. The game would be to 12. Martinez carried the team on his back in this game.

A beautiful half-field cross-field forehand from Martinez seemed to find Ibarguen behind his defender Hibbert but Ibarguen could not hang on and Hibbert crashed into him after. Ibarguen made a dubious foul call here and things got weird for a bit. After much discussion it was sent back and several passes later a similar incident as Mosquera on an in cut seemed to drop a pass with pressure from her defender Hui. No decision could be made. It was too hard to tell but finally it was decided no foul. And in a matter of seconds the Colombian hopes looked dashed when Mark Lloyd bombed a deep shot to Hibbert to take back the late-game break advantage, 11-10. Once again Colombia did not fold.

Working up the field Martinez eventually found Alexander Ford (he of the dreadlocks and quick feet) in the end zone to tie it at 11 – next point wins. The crowd, at this point, was straight-out roaring. But Canada was receiving the disc for the win on double game point. The entire stadium tried to will Colombia to get a turnover. But a quick set play brought Lloyd under on an egg-beater cut to the sideline. The forehand side open he ripped one far and deep to a streaking Jeff Lindquist. Lindquist goes full out and with a left-hand extension makes a sensational catch to a fitting end to a barnburner game.

“That play was so weird,” explained Lindquist after the game. “I thought I made the catch but the crowd was absolutely dead silent. I thought maybe there was a problem, a foul, something happened or I dropped the disc? But I had the disc.” Indeed he did, and the game was Canada’s.

The silence was the sound of shock from the Colombia supporters who gave all of their heart and passion to the team but sometimes a team will come up short. We all do in our lives. We are only human and the home team even with the voices and hearts of thousands will not always win.

Fantastic plays in this game from Captain Martinez who threw three goals (assists) and caught three. Hibbert for the Canadians caught four goals, Lloyd and Adrian Yearwood threw four goals each and Cam Harris finished with two-and-two.

There would be no medal for Colombia.

There was little chance the gold medal match could mirror the intensity and thrills of the Bronze medal game.

But few people expected this result: a pasting by the USA over Australia 13-6.

The United States truly showed what kind of team they are with a stunning array of versatility and talent on the field. They figured out some great offensive sets by circling Beau Kittredge in and out to reset the disc and reset the offensive looks on the field. When Kittredge wasn’t available big man Dylan Tunnell would fill the spot. When Ashlin Joye was covered Ryan Farrell would be there. When speedster Octavia Payne wasn’t on the field, Sarah “Surge” Griffith was there to make spectacular blocks.
The Americans neutralized big Tom Rogacki and his deep looks by covering tightly the release points of deep receivers. And sometimes they just capitalized on Australian jitters. A dropped pull at 4-2 gave USA a cushion of three which was already far too many breaks.

No other team can say they accomplished that feat here in Cali.

**Final standings:**

USA Gold  
Australia Silver  
Canada Bronze  
Colombia 4th  
Japan 5th  
Great Britain 6th

USA catches during the gold medal game with Australia.

“It’s fine to lose a game if you play your best and give it your all,” said Australian Team Manager Kerry Justus, “But it’s disappointing when you feel that you didn’t show up and didn’t bring your best game.”

The end result revealed everything about why USA was so strong this tournament in winning the third consecutive gold medal at The World Games: every one of the thirteen players on the roster either caught or threw a goal.

Team USA celebrating its title with WFDF President Rauch.
BULA/WFDF 2013 European Championships of Beach Ultimate final results

The 2013 BULA/WFDF European Championships of Beach Ultimate (ECBU) in Calafell Platja, Spain, came to a close with a victory by Team Sweden over Ireland 12-4 in the featured Mixed division final. A total of 1,150 players from 23 countries participated in the largest Beach Ultimate event ever co-hosted by the Beach Ultimate Lovers Association (BULA) and the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) in the seven divisions: Open, Women’s, Mixed, Open Masters, Women’s Masters, Mixed Masters and Grand Masters. In the other finals on the last day of the event in a wonderful and always sunny setting on the Calafell Beaches, Switzerland defeated Great Britain 11-8 in the Open division while in the women’s division Russia bested Switzerland with a 13-9 score.

The final day of the Masters divisions play resulted in good success for Germany’s teams, taking two gold medals from Great Britain in the Mixed Masters (11-10) and in the Women’s Masters (9-7) divisions, as France won the Bronze in both divisions. In the Open Masters division Great Britain got their revenge by winning the gold by a 13-8 score over France, and Finland beat the Netherlands by the same score for the Bronze medal.

The French also won the Grand Masters division over Austria by a score of 11-7, while Great Britain defeated Germany 10-7 for the Bronze. Two bronze medals went to Germany beating Great Britain in the Women’s division 10-7 and the Ukraine in the Open division 13-9. It was the first WFDF sanctioned tournament which the Ukraine attended as a regular WFDF member association having been approved by the WFDF Congress just prior to the start of the ECBU event along with Turkey WFDF’s regular member associations. The team from Turkey was awarded the Spirit of the Game award together with the team from Portugal in the Mixed division. Switzerland won the Spirit award in the Open division while Belgium took the prestigious award in the Women’s division.

During the closing ceremony, BULA President and WFDF Beach Ultimate Chair Patrick van der Valk thanked the members of the local tournament organizing committee (LOC) Juan Carlos Membrilla and Ruth Vilagrasa as well as BULA Europe President Pedro Vargas. “The ECBU 2013 has been an amazing display of the game and the spirit of Beach Ultimate,” added van der Valk. “Everything worked out really well: great weather, organization, athletes, partners, volunteers, and location. The live.ecbu2013.org website with wonderful video coverage, photo streaming, live scoring of all games, social media, and statistics, was a big success and showed the world how a competitive sport without referees or observers can be played and celebrated. I really couldn’t be happier.”

"This edition of the BULA/WFDF European Championships of Beach Ultimate was a huge success with regard to the organizational level, the participation figures, new media attention, and the sporting performance," commented WFDF President Robert “Nob” Rauch. "Nine different countries came away with gold, silver, or bronze medals. The cooperation between BULA and WFDF and the fantastic job done by the Local Organising Committee in Spain resulted in what turned out to be an excellent promotion for Beach Ultimate by any standards. We are hopeful that this first WFDF sanctioned championship event under the status as an IOC recognized International Federation will further strengthen our case for incorporation of Beach Ultimate into the SportAccord World Beach Games.”

France secured the Spirit of the Game award in the Open Masters division, Great Britain in the Mixed Masters and Germany in the Women’s Masters and the Grand Masters divisions.
WFDF 2013 World Under-23 Championships in Toronto, Canada, reported

The WFDF 2013 World Under-23 Ultimate Championships were hosted in Toronto, Ontario, Canada from July 21 – 28, 2013. Host site was York University campus and the event was hosted by the Toronto Ultimate Club (TUC). The TOC partnered with various departments at York University in hosting the event, in particular the Sport & Recreation department who acted as the main liaison.

Over the course of 18 months the TOC hosted extensive meetings and communications with Security, Grounds, Waste Management, Food Services, Accommodations, Parking, and Risk Management.

Supporting partners included Tourism Toronto, the City of Toronto, Ultimate Canada, and the Toronto Sports Council. Event sponsors included VC Ultimate (Official Merchandise), Steam Whistle Pilsner (Official Beer), NexGen (Official Streaming Partner), Discraft, Awake Chocolate, Toronto Rush, Daredevil Discs, Zuluru, and IamUltimate.

The U23 Championships played host to 36 teams from 17 nations in 3 divisions: Open, Women’s, and Mixed. Over 900 athletes, coaches, and managers visited Toronto.

The majority of teams stayed on campus at York University and approximately 2/3 of all athletes acquired a meal plan through the on-campus provider, the Underground Restaurant.
The U23 Championships also played host to the annual WFDF Congress, on July 20-21. Participants of the WFDF 2013 Congress in Toronto.

The weather during the event was incredible! There was a brief (10 minutes) rain storm on July 23 and there was intermittent rain during the day on July 27. Otherwise it was hot and sunny throughout the tournament, providing a perfect weather landscape for the U23 Championships.

119 volunteers signed up online through Zuluru and fulfilled 600 shifts and over 1800 hours. Beyond that approximately 20 volunteers did not sign up online and participated extensively, plus many volunteers stayed beyond their indicated shifts. There were also 40 medical volunteers throughout the week, for a total of 179 volunteers. TOC estimate approximately 3000 volunteer hours were fulfilled.

Congratulations to Team USA who captured Gold in all 3 divisions, as well as Spirit Champions on the Mixed Division. Team Canada finished with 2 Silver and 1 Bronze. Japan achieved 1 Silver and 1 Bronze and Australia 1 Bronze.

Results:

**Women’s division**

Final Ranking | Country
---|---
1 | United States
2 | Japan
3 | Canada

**Open division**

Final Ranking | Country
---|---
1 | United States
2 | Canada
3 | Australia

**Mixed division**

Final Ranking | Country
---|---
1 | United States
2 | Canada
3 | Japan

All results on: http://www.wfdf2013-u23.com/

Sweden Takes Gold in both the Open and Women’s Divisions as the WFDF 2013 World Overall Championship Concludes

After six days of competition from 22-27 August in Norrköping, Sweden, the WFDF 2013 World Overall Championships (WOC) concluded with the crowning of new open and women’s division champions from the host country. Tomas Burvall of Bollnäs, Sweden, won his second WFDF World Overall gold medal in the open division alongside the women’s gold medalist, Niloofar Mosavar Rahmani of Norrköping, Sweden.

The WOC event, held every other year, is the official WFDF championship contesting seven individual and pairs events, including the disc sports disciplines of Accuracy, Distance, Disc Golf, Discathon, Double Disc Court, Freestyle and Self-Caught Flight (SCF). A total of 85 athletes from nine countries and three continents were in attendance. Sweden finished atop the medal count with 11 gold, 10 silver, and eight bronze medals, while the USA finished second in the medal count with 5, 6, and 6, respectively.

The nine-hole disc golf final for the open division saw Avery Jenkins (USA) of Santa Cruz, Calif., taking gold; Rahmani won gold in the women’s division. The Swedish / Swiss team of Joakim Arveskär and Reto Zimmerman won the open division gold medal in the pairs freestyle; for the women, Rahmani and her sister Gohar Mosavar Rahmani finished first. The Double Disc Court team of Americans Harvey Brandt (Phoenix, Ariz.) and David Hesselberth (Raleigh, N.C.) won three games in a best-of-five final to claim the gold medal.
The women’s team Tita Ugalde and Beth J. Verish won gold in their division’s final.

“This event exhibited some of the best camaraderie among competitors and Spirit of the Game that disc sports have to offer,” said WFDF board member Jack Cooksey, chair of the Overall Committee. “The Swedish Frisbeesport Association and the local organizers, the KFUM Norrköping disc club, delivered a top-flight championship tournament as well, marshaling dozens of volunteers and creating an environment that allowed competitors to focus their energies on world-class performances across the disciplines.”

Robert “Nob” Rauch, WFDF President, added that “the Overall Championship is the purest test of the total package of an athlete’s skills with a Frisbee, measuring technique, understanding of the wind and the flight characteristics of the Frisbee itself, as well as their own strength, balance, speed, and agility.”

**Medal Count**

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**IOC Recognition and the Future of Disc Sports**

by Robert “Nob” Rauch, WFDF President

Disc sports continue to grow. Forty-five years from the parking lot at Columbia High School in Maplewood, NJ in 1968, Ultimate was part of the featured program at the World Games in Colombia, drawing over 45,000 spectators and drawing the top live-streaming audience of any of the sports there. And of great long-term significance, on May 31, 2013 the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) -- the international sport governing body for all flying disc sports – received official “Recognition” by the International Olympic Committee.

Unfortunately, WFDF’s Recognition by the IOC as an International Federation (IF) does not mean that Ultimate or any other disc sports are automatically going to be a part of the Olympic program. There are several additional requirements that must be met, including having organized members in no fewer than 75 countries (WFDF currently has 56). Moreover, the Summer Games Program of the Olympics is capped at 28 sports and 10,500 athletes for logistical purposes so, for a new sport to be added, a current sport must be dropped. The IOC decides upon the program seven years in advance. You may have seen the vigorous discussions going on earlier this year regarding the 2020 Olympics. The three finalists – Wrestling, the eventual winner, Baseball/Softball, and Squash -- spent millions of dollars and made a number of revisions in the way they conduct their competitions and in their governance to position themselves as favorably as possible for consideration. Accordingly, getting Ultimate included in the Olympics needs to be considered a long-term objective for WFDF, measured in decades.

So then what does Recognition actually mean? At its most basic level, we are on the “bench” of the Olympics Sports Program, one of 34 members of the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF). We are in a position to have an ongoing dialogue with the IOC staff and we are provided certain financial resources from the IOC.

We gain credibility in the world of sports businesses, educators, and governmental authorities, and the visibility of WFDF and flying disc sports is raised with potential sponsors and broadcast media. We have greater access to learn directly from the most organized global sports. In return, we are challenged to fulfill the additional requirements of the IOC and to get better at what we do.

A more complete presentation can be found at:


In announcing that it had recognized WFDF, the IOC stated: “The EB (Executive Board) has granted provisional
recognition to the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) after the International Federation fulfilled all the criteria of the IOC recognition procedure. The EB noted that the WFDF is a rapidly growing Federation with tremendous youth appeal, a strong grounding in Olympic ideals, gender equality, and good governance, including WADA compliance.” The Recognition process has two stages. We are now in a two year provisional period of Recognition, leading up to our consideration for permanent approval in 2015. The IOC has given us constructive criticism, both pros and cons, so that we will be in a position to be successfully confirmed for permanent Recognition. They indicated that the strengths of our application included: “value added” due to our emphasis on spirit of the game, popularity and growth, youth appeal, gender inclusiveness, and development as an IF. However, they highlighted areas for improvement, including gender balance on the board, participation in more of the established global multi-sports events, and broader country strength in competitions.

Over the next 18 months we will be seeking to address the concerns raised by the IOC so that we are more fully embracing the “best practice” standards they set out, and we are working to increase the number of countries that are a part of the WFDF family. As a federation of member associations, WFDF seeks to pursue its objectives through our Members and represent their interests in the international arena. Therefore, another very important area for us is to have our members pursue and achieve Recognition by their National Olympic Committees.

As of today, Recognition by National Olympic Committees has been achieved by Finland, Hong Kong, Norway, and Sweden, and recognition by the national Sports Ministry has been achieved by the member associations of Canada, France, Israel, and the Russian Federation. As a prerequisite, this may require certain changes in the way our member organizations operate, including upgrading the level of institutionalization and implementing other governance procedures. We believe the benefits over time will outweigh the difficulties of making changes.

Finally, I would like to offer my thoughts on what it is going to take to be successful in the world of Sport. I view there as being three main themes – branding, growth, and commercial development – with the key being to establish a virtuous circle among these three elements. On branding, I think it is useful to remember that it is the flying disc itself and its flight characteristics which help define and differentiate Ultimate from other sports. In a world where participation by kids in organized sports is falling because they no longer enjoy sports due to overspecialization and win-at-all-costs coaching approaches, we can’t ignore the aspect of FUN which is at the roots of all of the Frisbee sports. I also think that we should view flying disc sports in a lifetime continuum, one that allows people to start with basic throwing and catching as kindergarteners, play Ultimate in their athletic prime, and be playing disc golf through their golden years.

Finally, “Spirit of the Game” is an incredible strength. While other sports value sportsmanship, like golf or tennis, it is a key part of our branding message because we continually highlight it as such an integral part of the sport.

On growth, we need to continue to take a multi-tier approach with attention to elite, recreational, and youth play. In many ways, youth are the future, for numbers and awareness, and this will make coaches’ training increasingly important. And we need to make sure there are lots of local opportunities for play. Finally, on commercial development, we need to showcase our elite competition nationally and internationally. This will require us to accommodate the inclusion of a spectator focus while maintaining the best aspects of the player focus that has always been our primary culture. Broadcast media is what drives the economics for Sport, and USAU’s partnership with ESPN is very exciting in learning how to present the sport to a broader audience.

If we can highlight elite competition and get attention through the broadcast media, we will spur growth. This will require us to provide opportunities for participation on a local level. More people will be drawn to the sport if they understand why Ultimate and all disc sports are different and we must avoid the trap of trying to be like “other sports,” which studies show are losing participation. If we can grow, then the media and sponsors will want access to our competitions. This is the virtuous circle we are trying to set in motion. Ultimate and other disc sports have many of the elements the IOC wants in its games – fair play, youth appeal, popularity, athleticism, gender equality – and, if we can achieve the above, we will find our path to the Olympic sports program.

From l. to r.: Volker Bernardi, WFDF Executive Director, Dr. Jacques Rogge, IOC President, Robert “Nob” Rauch, WFDF President, Fumio Morooka, WFDF Board Member.

Robert “Nob” Rauch, WFDF President, with the Hon. John Fahey, WADA President, at the World Games in Cali 2013. WADA’s promotional giveaway at the World Games was a distinctive green disc with the phrase “Say No to Doping.”
Ultimate Celebrates its 45th Year

WFDF President Robert “Nob” Rauch was recently driving back from a weekend spectating at an Ultimate tournament at which his daughter Kristen was playing at the University of Delaware. He had attended the USA Ultimate (USAU) National championships in Texas the weekend earlier where the once every five-year Alumni Reunion and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Dinner had also taken place (with the next one scheduled for the 50th anniversary of the founding of Ultimate in 2018).

In the midst of the tedious drive up the New Jersey Turnpike, he decided to take a short detour to Maplewood, NJ, the birthplace of Ultimate, and visit the parking lot where it all began. In 1989, as the head of the UPA (predecessor to USAU) he had attended a ceremony to dedicate a plaque on a monument next to that very same parking lot.

It turns out that it is still there, and apparently the Columbia High School (CHS) alumni still gather there every Thanksgiving evening (which is held the fourth Thursday in November in the USA) in a pick-up game to celebrate the roots of our sport. This is where it all began.

WFDF President Nob Rauch and the commemorative plaque.

Columbia High School in Mapleridge, NJ, USA.

The parking lot of CHS (south view, with the plaque lower front).

The parking lot of Columbia High School (north view).

UPA Newsletter article on the 1989 commemoration ceremony.
WFDF - 2013 Election Announcement

Overview

WFDF is seeking enthusiastic, skilled and committed candidates for its 2013 Elections. Complete nominations must be received by the Nominating Committee by November 7, 2013. The target date for the start of the elections is November 15, 2013, with a targeted end date of December 15, 2013. Results should be announced by December 31, 2013 subject to confirmation of acceptance by elected candidates. The following positions are open for election for 2-year terms commencing on January 1, 2014 and concluding December 31, 2015:

- Secretary (2 year term)
- Treasurer (2 year term)
- Ultimate Committee Chair (2 year team)
- Freestyle Committee Chair (2 year term)
- 3 Directors At Large (2 year term)

The successful candidates will join 6 continuing Directors to form the 12 person WFDF Board, in addition to the non-voting representative of the Athlete’s Commission. Information regarding the responsibilities of the Board of Directors can be found on the WFDF web site at:

http://wfdf.org/about/organisational-structure/board-of-directors

WFDF also is seeking Sub-Committee Chairs of the Ultimate Committee for the following positions (note these are NOT Board level positions):

- Ultimate Events Subcommittee Chair (logistics, event bid review, other technical issues) (2 year term)
- Ultimate Spirit of the Game Subcommittee Chair (2 year term)

Election Policy and Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will conduct the election according to the WFDF Election Policy 7.1, which can be found on the WFDF web site at:

http://wfdf.org/about/rules-a-policies/doc_download/429-wfdf-election-policy-71

For this year’s election, WFDF President Robert “Nob” Rauch will serve as Nominating Committee Chair and WFDF Executive Director Volker Bernardi will serve as the Administrator. Two additional candidates for the position of scrutineer are also being sought. Duties of the Nominating Committee are outlined in the Election Policy.

If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, please send an email to Robert L. “Nob” Rauch at president(at)wfdf(dot)org and/or Volker Bernardi at volker(dot)bernardi(at)wfdf(dot)org by no later than October 31, 2013.

Nomination Procedure

To apply to be a candidate, you must complete the WFDF Board of Directors Nomination Form and obtain an endorsement from a WFDF National Member or Organisational Member in Good Standing. All interested candidates must review Section 10a of Election Policy 7.1 (page 5) prior to submitting a Nomination Form. Samples of these documents can be found in Appendix 1 and 2 of the WFDF Election Policy.

Complete nominations must be received by the Nominating Committee by November 7, 2013. Nominations should be sent to:

WFDF(NomCom)@yahoogroups.com.

You may be nominated for more than one position.

WFDF Election Process

The 2013 Election will be conducted on-line via a voting form using the Single Transferable Vote methodology. National and Disc Sport Organizational members will be sent a link to the voting form directly. The Election is currently targeted to begin no earlier than November 15, 2013 and to conclude thirty days from the start date.

The Nominating Committee will announce results by December 31, 2013 subject to confirmation of acceptance by elected candidates.

Only WFDF Members in Good Standing may vote in the elections. For a member to be in good standing for the purposes of the 2013 Elections means the member must have completed its 2013 Census Report and paid its 2013 Membership dues by no later than November 15, 2013.

Current WFDF Board

The current WFDF Board, including those Directors who will continue terms through to the end of 2013, is listed here:

http://wfdf.org/about/organisational-structure/board-of-directors

If you have any questions, please contact Volker Bernardi, Executive Director, at ed@wfdf.org.

Election Nomination form 2013 - pdf format
Election Nomination form 2013 - WORD format
Conflict of Interest policy form - pdf format
Conflict of interest policy form - WORD format
WFDF 2014 World Junior Ultimate Championships to be held in Lecco, Italy

The World Flying Disc Federation is pleased to announce that the WFDF 2014 World Junior Ultimate Championships (WJUC) 2014 will be hosted in the city of Lecco, Lombardy (Italy). The event will be held from July 20-26, 2014 at the facilities at the Nuova Ponzia Polo & Country Club in Lecco, and the finals will be staged in the Stadio Rigamonti-Ceppi, the main stadium of the city of Lecco on July 26, 2014.

The successful bid came from the Ultimatevents s.r.l. group headed by Max Vitali. Ultimatevents is also hosting the WFDF 2014 World Ultimate Club Championships (WUCC), which is being held two weeks later at the same venues. The bid was supported and endorsed by the Federazione Italiana Flying Disc (FIFD), led by President Francesco Franceschetti.

“WFDF carefully considered its decision to award two events in three weeks to the same host. We grew comfortable with the potential challenges and risks due to the experience of the tournament organizing committee under Max Vitali and his staff and the fact that the same infrastructure is going to be used for both events,” stated WFDF President Robert “Nob” Rauch. “With 40 teams and some 1,000 athletes expected for WJUC, and 160 teams and 3,600 athletes for WUCC, it will be an exciting summer of Ultimate in the Lake Como region of Italy and the local community has pledged its strong support to make this a memorable experience for all our athletes. By hosting these two events in the same venue, we view this as potential role model for a sustainable use of resources for mega sport events, and WFDF is dedicating additional resources to support and oversee the host.”

“Hosting the next WUJC is a huge privilege, and at the same time a massive responsibility for us,” commented Max Vitali, CEO of Ultimatevents. “We want the juniors championship event next year to boast the same quality of services and infrastructure as any elite world championship in order to seize this opportunity to help these young players in their path to be the future of our sport. We deeply thank WFDF, especially President Nob Rauch, Executive Director Volker Bernardi, and Ultimate Committee chair Simon Hill, along with the entire WFDF board of directors, for the confidence and trust they have placed in us in awarding us the right and the honor to host the WFDF 2014 WJUC.”

The last WFDF World Junior Ultimate Championships were held in the city of Dublin, Ireland, in 2012.

WFDF 2015 World Overall Flying Disc Championships (WOC) Bids Sought

WFDF’s Board of Directors and Overall Committee are seeking bids from potential host organizers for WFDF 2015 World Overall Flying Disc Championships (WOC).

The deadline for submitting completed bids for WOC 2013 is 15 December 2013. It is expected that the committee and board’s final bid selection will be announced by 28 February 2014.

All potential bidders should notify WFDF of their intention to bid (no actual details required) by 31 October 2013.

The WOC, which is held biannually, features competitions in seven flying disc disciplines — Freestyle, Double Disc Court, Discathlon, Accuracy, Disc Golf, Distance and Self-Caught Flight. Events shall be held to crown the World Overall champions in the Open, Women’s, and Masters Divisions.

For information about any of these events or on the bidding process and for a digital copy of the bid guidelines, please contact Jack Cooksey, WFDF Overall Chair (jack.cooksey@wfdf.org). The Bid Guidelines and bid budget template to be used for any application also can be accessed under this link:


WFDF and BULA seek host organizers for the WFDF & BULA 2015 World Championships of Beach Ultimate

The World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) and the Beach Ultimate Lovers Association (BULA) are seeking potential host organizers for the WFDF & BULA 2015 World Championships of Beach Ultimate (WCBU2015). Co-hosted by both WFDF and BULA, this tournament is the premier world championship for Beach Ultimate. The deadline for submitting completed bids for WCBU2015 is 30 November 2013. It is expected that the final bid selection will be announced no later than the first quarter of 2014.

All potential bidders must notify WFDF and BULA of their intention to bid (no actual details required) by 25 October 2013. This letter of interest should be sent to both ed@wfdf.org and wcbu2015@beachultimate.org. This letter should address proposed dates, the basic organizing committee and experience, map of the location, and a short description why this host is a great candidate.

Importantly, due to conflicts in the summer schedule in 2015, we are seeking bids for this weeklong event for times other than the months of July and August or the period from 25 September – 5 October 2015.

For information about this event or on the bidding process and for the bid guidelines, please contact Patrick van der Valk, WFDF Beach Ultimate Chair and BULA President (wcbu2015@beachultimate.org).
WFDF to Investigate Feasibility of Introducing Wheelchair Ultimate

One of the decisions at this year’s Congress in Toronto was to look into developing Wheelchair Ultimate. This program could be introduced by building on activity that already exists and by approaching local adaptive sports organizations and seeking to incorporate Ultimate into their current activities. We have heard of small leagues in New Hampshire and Montreal, and we would like to see if it is feasible to support a broader initiative. We are now looking for information on any current activity that may exist. We would also like to hear from anyone interested in the project willing to work with their local adaptive sports organizations.

For example, the University of New Hampshire in the USA has a wide range of intramural sports activities for their students and Northeast Passage (an organization affiliated with UNH) offers a wheelchair option under their intramural program. For three weeks each season they play Wheelchair Ultimate. They play on an indoor basketball court with teams of six. For last semester, per league coordinator Chandler Bullard, they had six teams signed up, one being from the UNH Ultimate team. The Ultimate team wasn’t very skilled in the chairs at first but they made up for it in their disc skills. UNH may be unique in that they have about twenty wheelchair court chairs (chairs designed for sports) and play a full range of sports. Not many schools/organizations have access to enough chairs to play a team sport like Ultimate. The players that participate are about 1/3 wheelchair users and the other 2/3 are able bodied. Chandler commented that “It’s a great dynamic that gets everyone in chairs and having a blast.”

Here is a link to several videos:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DO5199WVxZM&feature=youtu.be
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2Qgu7eSA-U
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VECcNtbp88
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XISz9872HPY

WFDF President Robert “Nob” Rauch stated: “The first step for us is to ascertain what already activity exists, to then see what support resources there are in the adaptive sports organizations, and then develop a program for how WFDF can support this. We believe that introducing Ultimate into the adaptive sports community seems like a natural fit. Other team sports have programs (e.g. basketball, American football, rugby), so we can learn a lot from what is already being done. If we feel we can move forward with this, it will be handled under the WFDF’s Sport for All Commission.”

There are a variety of national and international adaptive sports organizations, including:

http://www.paralympic.org
http://www.iwasf.com/iwasf

http://www.wheelchairsportsfederation.org
http://www.adaptedsports.org

Please contact Volker Bernardi, WFDF’s Executive Director, if you have information on any current programs or are interested in working on this initiative under volker.bernardi@wfdf.org.

WFDF to Establish a Task Force to Consider its Position on the Spirit of the Game and On-Field Officiation Issues for Ultimate

WFDF has appointed a task force to review its position on the Spirit of the Game and on-field officiation issues for Ultimate. The Task Force will have two objectives: (1) Reaffirm WFDF’s definition of Spirit of the Game and review, develop and strengthen existing programs in order to promote a clearer and more consistent understanding of how it should be applied; and (2) Answer the question on how does WFDF ensure that Ultimate athletes play a fair game that is also viewable (interesting for spectators in person and on TV/internet to watch). A 12-person panel has been appointed and are tasked with presenting a report to the 2014 Congress in Lecco

Background

All games in WFDF-sanctioned Ultimate Championships are played on a purely self-officiated basis, without outside adjudicators in the form of Observers or referees. In the large majority of cases this system works remarkably well, with highly respectful play and few or no incidents, even while maintaining a high level of competition. However, in just the last year there have been three highly visible games where significant issues arose that were widely commented upon: the Japan vs. Canada 2012 WUGC open pool play game, the Italy vs. Colombia 2013 WU23 open pool play game, and the Canada vs. Colombia 2013 World Games bronze medal match. These incidents were disruptive for both the spectators (live and on streaming video) as well as to the players. Concerns over overly aggressive play, cheap calls, and protracted discussions have prompted calls for WFDF to adopt Observers or even referees.

The issue of whether some form of referee (vs. self-officiation on-field) should be introduced into Ultimate has been debated since the inception of the game in the late 1960s. It was the cover story on the first UPA Newsletter in April 1980. The first “spirit of the game” clause was only introduced in the 7th Edition of the Rules of Ultimate in 1978. In North America, the concept of Observers, a third party who could be called in to provide an opinion on a foul or violation or even overturn a call, has been used since the late 1970s and was formalized in the early 1990s. Although the official Ultimate Rules used by WFDF had a provision for Observers through 2004 (when it was eliminated), in practice WFDF has always adhered to the principle of self-governance on-field in its Championship events. Nonetheless, the issue has been brought into even sharper focus with the introduction of full referees into the “professional” game as presented by the AUDL and MLU in North America.
There are a number of arguments that are made for why some form of Observer or even referee is needed. These include: long stoppages and discussions, lack of rules knowledge or differing interpretations, language barriers, lack of communication to spectators, difficulty maintaining impartiality in match-deciding situations, and teams or players who cheat. Many of these are primarily issues for spectators or for those who wish to grow the spectator base, but several also affect the players’ experiences as well.

Proponents of Observers also will make the point that better education and emphasis can ensure that it works for all levels of competition, that it makes Ultimate unique, and arguments that self-officiation works for nearly all games at having to adopt full refereeing. However, the counter-arguments that self-officiation works for nearly all games at all levels of competition, that it makes Ultimate unique, and that better education and emphasis can ensure that it works for all levels of play are also very strong.

WFDF already has several mechanisms in which third parties are involved in the governance of play and conduct. There is a Tournament Rules Group at every sanctioned event with significant power, formal WFDF timekeeper and line assistant roles, and the potential for a Conduct Committee review for egregious cases. And we must acknowledge that it appears that many players and administrators globally are at least thinking about alternatives to 100% self-officiating. In the most recent annual Opinion Survey of Member associations, while most strongly agreed that “Ultimate is not a game with control on the field. Second, we are interested in preserving the best aspects of Ultimate being a player-centric game with control on the field. Second, we are interested in developing the sport so as to be interesting to spectators, sponsors, media, educators, and the Olympic Movement. These dual priorities are designed to make sure that athletes continue to want to play the game, as well as to promote growth through greater visibility.

For these reasons, the Task Force will have two objectives:

1. Reaffirm WFDF’s definition of Spirit of the Game and order to promote a clearer and more consistent understanding of how it should be applied; and

2. Answer the question on how does WFDF ensure that Ultimate athletes play a fair game that is also viewable (interesting for spectators in person and on TV/internet to watch).

The rules lay out the definition of spirit of the game, but it appears what may be missing is a clear understanding of how that definition is interpreted and applied.

Some very concrete actions would likely always be considered “spirited”, while others may be dependent on the playing environment (e.g. competitive, recreational, or educational). For example, tennis -- which is mostly self-officiated -- has not only a rule book, but also a very detailed companion to the rule book called The Code, which is largely the practical application of the self-officiating philosophy. We believe what we need is more clarification of how to specifically interpret and apply that definition. However, we also don’t want to get bogged down in this first stage of the project; we are looking to agree on a perspective and set out an action plan for subsequent work if necessary.

We note that this second question is not the same as “should WFDF adopt Observers?” Rather, we want our games to highlight the positive qualities of player control (fair play, personal responsibility, communication) while not allowing the negative potential of player control (misconduct, disorganization, miscommunication) to overshadow or diminish the positives.

**Task Force Logistics**

We sought to construct a task force group with no more than a dozen members so that it would not become unwieldy. We felt it should be comprised of the WFDF Ultimate Committee chair, Rules Subcommittee chair, Championships Subcommittee chair, SOTG Subcommittee chair, a representative from the largest Member associations, an Athletes’ Commission representative, and a WFDF executive for the WFDF business perspective. We also wanted to add representatives from the Women in Sport and Youth and Sports Commissions, and representatives from a couple smaller countries for their regional perspective. Accepting that several of these positions overlap, the task force will be comprised of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Background Roles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rueben Berg</td>
<td>Rules Subcommittee chair, Australia representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiina Booth</td>
<td>Youth and Sports Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Deaver</td>
<td>Deputy Ultimate chair, US representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Gisel</td>
<td>Championships Subcommittee chair, Canada representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Haynes</td>
<td>Athletes’ Commission representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Si Hill</td>
<td>Ultimate Chair, UK representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jarna Kalpala</td>
<td>Women in Sport Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makoto Ohi</td>
<td>Finland representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nob Rauch</td>
<td>WFDF executive representative</td>
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Robert “Nob” Rauch, WFDF President stated “This is going to be a difficult process. We’ve tried to pull together a ‘blue ribbon panel’ that includes the full spectrum of opinions regarding on-field officiation – from pure self-officiation to observers to referees -- which may make it even more difficult. Nonetheless, given that these topics have been discussed for over four decades already, we are hoping that the task force will come up with an initial written report to the board discussing their definition of the scope of the review and expected target date for a final report by no later than January 31, 2014 with a final recommendation by mid-2014, in time for presentation to the 2014 Congress in Lecco.”

Rueben Berg will serve as chair of this task force. The first steps will be to evaluate the issues, further define the scope, and break down any research or lines of inquiry into manageable bits, through a series of e-mails and conference calls. On the first objective, we need to discuss ways to promote a more consistent understanding of what spirit of the game is and how it would be applied. On the second objective, given the way we have framed the question, the first issue to address will be whether there is actually a problem that requires some changes in our on-field governance policies, or whether we just require more and better education and peer review. If, indeed, it is agreed that certain changes may be necessary, then the task force will evaluate alternatives and determine how to introduce them. All along the way, we will expect that task force members will draw upon the input and expertise of their respective Committee and Commission members or of their national associations (as applicable) so that we take into account all perspectives. We also intend to do a global survey of players. While we would hope to achieve consensus, we would expect the final recommendations to be supported by no fewer than 80% of the task force members.

WFDF Board of Directors appoints Florian Pfender as new Rules Sub-Committee chair

Florian Pfender is the new Rules Sub-Committee chair within the WFDF Ultimate Committee. Rueben Berg had decided to step down from that position and recommended Florian as new chair. The Board of Directors unanimously confirmed that proposal during their last Board meeting on 26 October 2013.

Florian has served as member of the Rules Sub-Committee before and takes over with immediate effect. A German born Ultimate expert he lives in the U.S. 

NEWS from National Federations

United States of America (USA)

2013 U.S. Open Championships & Convention

More than just a tournament, the U.S. Open is a celebration of Character, Community and Competition. Held this year in Raleigh, N.C., the event was organized by USA Ultimate, the Triangle Flying Disc Association and the Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance. USA Ultimate was also proud and excited to have the World Flying Disc Federation partner for the 2013 U.S. Open to help make it both a global showcase for the sport and an opportunity to stimulate its growth and development.

The second annual U.S. Open was a major international competition as well as the largest ultimate convention in the world for athletes, fans and organizers.

Twenty-four high-level ultimate teams in three divisions (eight each in the men's, mixed and women's divisions) competed for the U.S. Open Championship in a four-day,
invitation-only tournament with live coverage available on ESPN. Members of USA Ultimate’s Triple Crown Tour Pro Flight, along with several other top teams from across the U.S., squared off against each other and some of the best teams from around the world in an attempt to capture the first leg of the USA Ultimate Triple Crown.

Winners of the 2013 U.S. Open Championships and the first leg of the inaugural Triple Crown Tour:

Mixed – Odyssée – Montreal, QC
Women’s – Fury – San Francisco, Calif.

With their victory in the finals, Odyssée became the first international team to claim a championship at the U.S. Open.

The USA Ultimate Convention was held again as part of the U.S. Open Championships in 2013. The convention welcomed ultimate enthusiasts from around the world for an unparalleled opportunity to learn from and interact with the industry’s best and brightest on a variety of topics. Convention sessions included discussions of the future of ultimate after WFDF’s recent recognition by the International Olympic Committee, building and sustaining youth ultimate programs, marketing and exposure, reducing injuries and using failure as a means of motivation, among many other topics.

In just its second year, over 500 athletes representing five nations competed at the U.S. Open to kick off the first-ever USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour and celebrate Character, Community and Competition (all pictures: Ultiphotos, courtesy of USAU).

2014 U.S. OPEN ULTIMATE CHAMPIONSHIPS & CONVENTION HEAD TO TWIN CITIES - Blaine’s National Sports Center Set to Host World-Class Ultimate in Minneapolis-St. Paul Area

Boulder, Colo. (November 4, 2013)—The third-annual U.S. Open Ultimate Championships and Convention will head to Minnesota’s Twin Cities next year with the National Sports Center in Blaine hosting the four-day tournament July 3-6, USA Ultimate announced today.

Organized by USA Ultimate, the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) and Minnesota Youth Ultimate the 24-team international tournament will again serve as the opening leg of USA Ultimate’s Triple Crown Tour and feature some of the world’s best ultimate teams in men’s, women’s and mixed divisions.

At 600 acres, the National Sports Center (NSC) is the largest amateur multi-sport and meeting facility in the world. The U.S. Open Ultimate Championships will utilize 13 of the NSC’s 52 world-class athletic fields, including the 8,500-seat NSC Stadium.

The 2014 U.S. Open Ultimate Championships will be covered live by ESPN as part of their exclusive coverage of the Triple Crown Tour.

“Minnesota Youth Ultimate and the Twin Cities ultimate community are pleased to host the U.S. Open in 2014,” said Bruce Mebust, tournament director and chairman of Minnesota Youth Ultimate. “This is the first time we’ve been privileged to host this premier event with USA Ultimate and we look forward to delivering a quality, world-class tournament. We anticipate that hosting the U.S. Open will contribute to the continued development of the sport at all levels in the Twin Cities and Minnesota.”

Launched in 2012, the U.S. Open Ultimate Championships and Convention feature a four-day tournament, as well as an international convention. The annual gathering of the worldwide ultimate community and industry serves to promote USA Ultimate’s mission of promoting Character, Community and Competition while providing interactive seminars, presentations and social events.

The venue selected to host the convention component of the event will be announced at a later date.

The Twin Cities has long been a thriving and supportive ultimate community. The National Sports Center has hosted the USA Ultimate Youth Club Championships since 2005 and the area is home to several notable ultimate teams, including reigning mixed division national champions Drag ‘n Thrust, men’s Elite Flight squad Subzero, and winners of the last four national titles in the masters division, Surly. Minnesota also has one of the most robust high school and youth ultimate scenes in the nation.

As one of the top four teams in the 2014 Triple Crown Tour’s Pro Flight, hometown favorite Drag ‘n Thrust automatically earns a bid to the invitation-only tournament and is excited about the opportunity to compete in a truly world-class tournament in its own backyard.
“Drag ‘n Thrust is very much looking forward to battling top-level competition in front of family and friends and for the U.S. Open to experience the great Minneapolis Ultimate Community, commented team captain Josh Hemmesch.

Germany (GER)

EYUC 2013 Germany made use of its home advantage

Three times gold and one time silver for the host of the European Youth Ultimate Championships

This year's EYUC from August 5 to 10 in Cologne has been the largest ever since in European Ultimate history. 41 teams from 16 nations took part and competed in the four divisions Junior Open, Junior women, U17 Open and U17 Girls (born 1997 or later). Thomas Boensch and Joerg Benner as Tournament Directors welcomed more than 900 guests at the ASV Cologne club stadium (field no. 1 for the finals) and in front of the big Cologne soccer stadium (fields 2 to 9).

Germany made use of its home advantage and presented its teams in very good shape, unbeaten in three divisions. Only In the U17 open division Great Britain was the team to beat, only Austria came very close, but failed. Nevertheless Austria really impressed with a silver medal (U17 Girls), two times Bronze (U17 Open and Junior Women’s) and a 5th place in Junior Open, as well as with two times winning the spirit award in both girls' divisions. France also turned out to have developed skills and fitness quiet well, with the silver medal in the Junior Open division and three times a fourth place. Furthermore the French Junior Open finalists won the spirit award, too. Ireland won the spirit award in the U17 Open division.

The participation of Germany in all four finals was a nice reward for the hard working organising crew, with special thanks to the EUF officials Chris Deinhardt, Paul Ericsson and Mark Kendall, Bernd Pröschold as schedule master, Dario Lucisano as SOTG Director, as well as to Valeska Schacht and Martin Reckmann as volunteers’ coordinators and Eddy Cheung as professional announcer of the finals.


Brazil (BRA)

PAUCC 2013 to be held in Aguas de Lindóia City, São Paulo

The Pan American Ultimate Club Championships are going to be held in Aguas de Lindóia City, São Paulo, from 13-17 November 2013.

In the Open and Women’s divisions a total number of 13 teams from 5 countries (Open division – ARG, BRA, COL, USA, VEN) and 7 teams from 4 countries (Women’s division – BRA, COL, USA, VEN) will participate. Average roster sizes are 18 players for Open division and 15 for Women’s division.

“We are thrilled to be awarded this event and are looking forward to receiving the Ultimate community from across the Americas here in Brazil,” states Roberto Hucke, President of the FPD.

“Hosting an event of this size is an honor and we are committed to making this event world class. We believe that with this Pan-American event we are strengthening the Ultimate community across the Americas. FPD Vice-President Luis Fazani added “The Federação Paulista de Disco seeks to support and lead the growth of Ultimate through all of Brazil and will use this opportunity not only to organize an amazing event but support the development of Ultimate in our country. We welcome all clubs teams across the Americas to come and enjoy the best of Brazilian hospitality.”

During the event the first and founding Congress of the Pan American Flying Disc Federation (PAFDF) will be held on 14 November 2013, at 18:30 hrs in the Oscar Inn resort. PAUCC 2013 is supported by the City Hall of Águas de Lindóia City and the Oscar Inn Eco Resort.

The official website:  http://www.paucc2013.com
Upcoming events

13-17 November 2013  WFDF 2013 Pan American Ultimate Club Championships, Aguas de Lindóia City, São Paulo, Brazil

14 November 2013   Congress of the Pan American Flying Disc Federation, Aguas de Lindóia City, São Paulo, Brazil

20-26 July 2014   WFDF 2014 World Junior Ultimate Championships, Lecco, Lombardy, Italy

2-9 August 2014   WFDF 2014 World Ultimate Club Championships, Lecco, Lombardy, Italy

2 August 2014   2014 WFDF annual Congress, Lecco, Lombardy, Italy

To be listed in this section, your event should be an international event. If you plan to attend any of these events and would like to submit a new story about your experience, please forward all submissions to ed@wfdf.org for insertion in the next available issue.

All submissions are subject to editing prior to publication.

Call for submissions

If you would like to contribute to the WFDF Newsletter, please submit your content to ed@wfdf.org

If you would like your information to be posted in the next issue, email me for specific deadlines.

Not all submitted content is guaranteed to be published. Please note that event reports and other news should have international relevance.

Some suggestions for submissions include: tournament announcements and results from disc sport events with international presence or for national championships, disc sport initiatives that your city or country are undertaking, submissions to a “Featured Photo” section, miscellaneous media sightings involving disc sports, and stories about the development of a particular disc sport in your area.

Imprint

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About WFDF: The World Flying Disc Federation is the international sports federation responsible for world governance of flying disc (Frisbee™) sports, including Ultimate, Guts, and Individual Events. WFDF is a member of SportAccord and the International World Games Association, and it is a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of Colorado, USA.