Minutes of the Meeting of the WFDF Board of Directors

Saturday, June 22, 2013

Conference Call at Saturday June 22, 2013; UK, POR- 22:00; GER, RSA- 23:00; USA NY, VA, MI - 17:00; USA CO, AZ - 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC - 14:00; Japan - 06:00 (23 June); Taiwan - 05:00 (23 June)

Board members present:


Also attending: Volker Bernardi, Executive Director (non-voting).

Board members absent or excused:

Patrick van der Valk, Jack Cooksey, Simon Hill, Ryan Scott, Kate Bergeron, Michael Hu, Ryan Purcell (Athletes’ Committee, non-voting)

Call to order (time: 23:06 CEST)

The quorum was reached with 7 members being present including 1 proxy.

Report by the President

President Rauch welcomed all Board members and thanked them for joining the conference call. Rauch apologised for the late sending out of the Briefing Book. The late message received from the IOC caused the need to revise the budget for 2014 as WFDF will receive an annual financial support of US$ 25,000 per year starting in 2013.

Decisions between meetings

Proposal to the Congress – 2013-4: The WFDF Board of Directors recommends that the Ukrainian Flying Disc Federation (UFDF) be approved by Congress as a regular National Member of WFDF. The Board certifies that UFDF has met the membership requirements cited in the WFDF Bylaws.
Result: The proposal was accepted. Approve: 34, No: 0, Abstain: 0, Total voting: 34 members. 21 June 2013

Proposal to the Congress – 2013-5: The WFDF Board of Directors recommends that the Flying Disc Players Association of Turkey (Oyunun Ruhu Derneği - ORD) be approved by Congress as a regular National Member of WFDF. The Board certifies that FDPAT-ORD has met the additional membership requirements cited in the WFDF Bylaws.
Result: The proposal was accepted. Approve: 34, No: 0, Abstain: 0, Total voting: 34 members. 21 June 2013

WFDF counts now 56 countries and 59 total members.

Hammerly mentioned that in 2010 WFDF passed a rule that intakes of new members will only be done twice a year and she has received several emails from members reminding us of the rule.
Minutes of meeting of May 19, 2013

The minutes will be voted on electronically by circulation to the Board.

Decisions requiring votes of the Board

Approval of 2014 updated budget proposal

Rauch asked whether the 2013 budget should be changed based on the additional IOC contribution. Hammerly opined that the budget should not be adjusted mid-year. He also presented the updated 2014 budget reflecting the annual financial support from the IOC of US$ 25,000, together with an increase in the Development budget, promotional expenses, and additional travel expenses. Rauch advised that WFDF will have to spend some of the IOC money (one third of 25,000 USD) on Anti-Doping projects and try to become a more active part of the Olympic Movement by taking steps such as attending more IOC meetings. This will result in higher travel expenses but will help us to obtain permanent IOC recognition in 2015. Rauch also proposed that WFDF spend more money on Public Relations in terms of development of the Federation by e.g. producing promotional and educational video clips.

Rauch put the updated budget to a vote, seconded by Hammerly. The budget was approved unanimously.

Events Coordinator

Brian Gisel presented the draft of the job description for the Events Coordinator and informed the Board that the document was drafted by Gisel and Hill for an eventually full-time position. He added that such positions often end up paying for themselves. The Coordinator should be someone to take over the Ultimate Championship side in a centralized process. The idea was to hire for a half-time position to start and if it goes well this person could be hired full-time. This should take off work from the Executive Director in the event area.

Hammerly requested clarification whether the job description is for a full-time or half-time position and whether event merchandise also should be coordinated by this person. Gisel responded that the working time is not mentioned explicitly but the tasks are not prioritized. He agreed that merchandising should be included to the description and that he would rework the description to make merchandise and registration a top priority in addition to managing the event contract. He added that in Canada this has happened and players’ fees could be reduced. Gisel will include the proposed revisions and present a new document for decision.

Hammerly asked about the responsibility for regional events. Gisel mentioned that these could be included but regional events are a little sporadic or well run already so first WFDF should get major events well run. Bernardi informed that the work with the TOCs of the regional events 2013 (PAUCC, AOUCC) is not sporadic with telephone calls every second day and lots of communications.

Hammerly asked whether the Events Coordinator should better report to the Ultimate Committee. Gisel responded that this is not decided yet but in several cases it makes
more sense to report to the Ultimate Committee Chair and this would set free the Executive Director even more. Rauch stated that while a lot of the work must be coordinated with the Chair of the Ultimate Committee (and other discipline committees), a lot of the work will impact general business of the organization, and thus the Events Coordinator should probably report to both the Disc Sports Committee chairs as well as to the Executive Committee.

Gisel added that setting up a central registration system and connecting to merchandise companies will be quite time consuming right from the start. Rauch added that the arrangement for these tasks has already been agreed with the WUCC TD for 2014. Gisel mentioned that he is thinking beyond 2014. Also the EC would likely start around January 2014, so the EC would need to start working on the World Championships 2016.

Hammerly proposed to start offering this as a half-time job and, if we see it is more work and we believe we can afford it from a budget standpoint, we can upgrade it to full time. Due to WFDF sanctioning more events and having them more spread out during the year it is not a lumpy job. Gisel agreed that the EC should report to both, the Ultimate Chair and the Executive Committee. He proposed the job be offered for a certain time frame, e.g. 20 hours/week for a one year term.

Rauch requested that the EC would also have to do some work for other disciplines, e.g. the registration process. Gisel responded that Overall e.g. events are a bit “specialized”, and it could be difficult to find someone who understands all flying disc sport modalities. Givens mentioned that once you get into the job it will become a full-time position. Indeed it will streamline organization of these events but the reporting should go through the Executive Director.

Rauch asked Hill and Gisel to work a bit more on the description and present an update within 2-3 weeks. The hiring process could be done in late 2013. Gisel will circulate a new proposal. Rauch suggested that if no major problems show up it should be approved.

Hammerly asked who is going to do the interviews and who will make final decision. Gisel mentioned that the Ultimate Chair, the Executive Director and President could conduct interviews. Rauch proposed to establish a Search Committee including the Ultimate Chair, Executive Director, President and any other Board member being interested.

Rauch put the proposal for a vote, seconded by Givens. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

**Development**

**Coaches Training**

Hammerly proposed that WFDF should spend resources to send 3-5 people to the USAU Convention in 2013 to “train the trainers.” We should identify a person from each region and these trained persons could be hired within their region to train others. Currently certain coaches from US teams are being hired from teams in the world to do sessions
and it is unclear if they are passing on the message the way WFDF would like to. The USAU coaching program is too expensive for WFDF to license.

Rauch added that we will need a curriculum and an event to host an effective education program. We could host an event and flying disc people could attend, with WFDF subsidizing their costs. Hammerly requested that we train the trainers and have them train people in the world.

Hammerly will look further into the issue and present a proposal to the Board at the next meeting.

Grants Program

Rauch mentioned that WFDF wants to help individuals who want to introduce new people to disc sports in new countries. Hammerly commented that WFDF will need to establish a structure for this (including the application process). It needs to be a true development program and it needs to be checked and confirmed (e.g. money for running a tournament should not be handed out without accountability, and people should be prepared to report on what they do with any grant money).

Givens would like to see a larger perspective of development. There is no overall plan for development so far. Rauch wants to set up a specific proposal and asked all Board members to send their ideas for development projects after the meeting.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

IOC Recognition Application Update

Rauch reported on the Sportaccord convention and the recognition granted by the IOC on the last day of the week in St. Petersburg. WFDF now is going to be admitted to membership with ARISF (Association of Recognised International Sport Federations). WFDF has received an approval letter from the IOC president and a diploma confirming the provisional approval.

Sportaccord Convention Report

Rauch reported on the convention. WFDF delegates touched base with all official organisation and agencies as needed. In meeting with WADA, WFDF promised to send them a proposal for only 2014 for the program for Flying Disc. The new WADA code will come into force on 1 January 2015 and we will do a multi-year proposal once final details are known.

The positive feedback from the IOC included information that 8 sports had been considered for recognition but only WFDF (next to the already recognised Baseball and Softball IFs which joined together as WCBS) were recommended by the IOC Sports Department to the IOC Executive Board for recognition. The questionnaire included 8 themes with 54 items and you need to show that you can respond to all the items.
Our strong values were SOTG, the gender equity as opposed to other sports and strong governance. As International Federation they have seen a positive development over the time with the aspect of the popularity of Flying Disc sports. The IOC is looking for sports with a strong youth appeal. On the other side there are some improvements needed for the permanent recognition. WFDF could have more women in the Board and the Athletes’ Commission and Medical Commission chair should have a voting position in the Board. In particular, the Athletes’ Commission is gaining much importance within the Olympic Movement. On the issue of History and Tradition, the University Games and SportAccord Multisport Games participation should be considered. WFDF had met with FISU (University Games) representatives and discussed the potential modification of the U23 event. As per the “global spread of excellence,” a greater diversity in top competitors is recommended, beyond just having 4-5 strong countries. The improvement of Colombia’s level of play of Ultimate over the last few years could help us in this regard.

As per the elections for the Sportaccord Presidency WFDF delegates have met with both Sportaccord presidency candidates.

Morooka thanked the President and Executive Director. In particular he appreciated the work which was done in preparing the application file of several hundreds of pages.

Hammerly asked what happens with the Commissions. Rauch responded that we started slowly as per the heavy working demands and the idea is to have an at least annual report from the commissions with their review of how WFDF is doing.

**Member Association Census**

Rauch presented the updated Census document.

**Member Association Opinion Survey**

Rauch presented the Survey.

**WFDF Congress 2013, Toronto**

Bernardi reported about the preparations. He proposed to think about measures to increase Congress participation.

**Events**

It will be a very busy summer season, with a lot of major events.

**BULA & WFDF European Championships of Beach Ultimate, 27-30 June 2013**

**WFDF World U23 Ultimate Championships, 22-28 July 2013**

**WOC 2013, 22-27 July 2013**

**The 2013 IWGA World Games, 28-30 July 2013**

**WFDF 2013 Asia Oceanic Ultimate Club Championships, 9-11 August 2013**
WFDF 2013 Pan American Ultimate Club Championships, 14-17 November 2013

WFDF 2014 World Ultimate Club Championships, 2-9 August 2014

Bernardi referred to the written reports on all events. There were no questions by the Board members.

WFDF 2014 World Junior Ultimate Club Championships

The Youth Commission and Ultimate Committee are reviewing the bid files and a proposal for a decision will be made for the next Board meeting.

Finance

No special items were discussed under this point.

Development

Peace and Sport project in Colombia – sponsors

Rauch referred to the report on the first week of the training included in Briefing Book.

Freestyle

Givens reported that the WFDF Freestyle World Championship was still under discussion. WFDF Freestyle event could be included in WOC or a major current event such as Paganello. At the end of 2013 he will come up with a new Freestyle Committee group. Givens asked Rauch to call Lori Daniels (FPA president) to see if there can be some perspective that he can convey to her.

Next Meeting

Proposed date: end of August.

Closing

The meeting closed at 00:47 CEST.
Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary