

## **Saturday, December 21, 2013**

Conference Call at Saturday November 23, 2013; UK, POR- 22:00; GER- 23:00; RSA - 00:00 (December 22); USA NY, VA, MI - 17:00; USA CO, AZ - 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC - 14:00; Japan - 07:00 (December 22); Taiwan - 06:00 (December 22).

### **Board members present:**

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Si Hill, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Patrick van der Valk, Brian Gisel, Kevin Givens, Tomas Burvall.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, Executive Director (non-voting), Ryan Purcell (Athletes' Committee, non-voting).

### **Board members absent or excused:**

Sandie Hammerly, Kate Bergeron, Ryan Scott.

### **Call to order (time: 23:06 CEST)**

The quorum was reached with 9 members being present.

### **Report by the President**

President Rauch welcomed all Board members and thanked them for joining the conference call. Many topics were to be covered during the meeting in particular with regard to WFDF governance.

### **Decisions between meetings**

None.

### **Minutes of meeting of November 23, 2013**

Hill requested to change the wording on page 8 from "granted" to checked" with regard to Hu`s application for a bid for Chinese Taipei at WUCC 2014. Givens proposed the approval of the minutes, seconded by van der Valk. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

### **Decisions requiring votes of the Board**

#### **Argentina regular membership proposal**

Bernardi recommended the approval of ADDVRA (Argentina) as regular member as they are a proven reliable partner as WFDF provisional member having provided all documents needed for their approval as regular member. Givens appreciated the development in South America which is very encouraging and made a motion for ADDVRA proposed to Congress as regular member, seconded by Morooka.

The Board unanimously accepted the motion to recommend ADDVRA to Congress as a

regular WFDF member for a vote.

### **World Games 2017 - appointment of Competition Manager**

Bernardi presented the nomination made by the Polish Ultimate Players Association for their President Michal Dul to be appointed as Competition Manager for the Ultimate event of the 2017 World Games in Wroclaw. Hill added that he knows Dul from a European Junior Championship which was run very well by him and made a motion for Michal Dul to be appointed as TWG 2017 Competition Manager for the Ultimate event, seconded by Burvall.

The Board unanimously accepted the motion to appoint Dul to this post.

### **Appointment Guts Chair, Board of Directors – Steve Taylor (USA)**

Rauch reported that Ryan Scott was unable to fulfil his WFDF Board commitments for personal reasons. USGPA President Steve Taylor has agreed to commit to serve as interim chair of the Guts Committee until end of Scott's term in December 2014. The appointment would take effect immediately.

A motion was made by Givens to approve the appointment with immediate effect, seconded by Griesbaum. The appointment was made unanimously. Steve Taylor will join the WFDF Board for their next Board meeting.

### **Appointment of Indoor Ultimate Working group**

Rauch reported that the call for nominations for an Indoor Ultimate Working group gathered great interest with 14 nominations coming in from member associations for the task force. There were several comments on the variety of formats being used around the world. Bernardi added that there are three nominations from USAU. Upon request Bernardi reported that there is no candidate from Sweden but they have indicated they want to submit a nomination, which was confirmed by Burvall. Rauch mentioned that the original idea was that there should be only one member per country permitted. Hill opined that for the beginning stage the more input about how Indoor Ultimate is played the better it would be. Givens asked about the targets of the group. Rauch explained that WFDF was asked by Ukraine to help standardize Indoor Ultimate and its rules. There are many variations depending on sizes of fields as well as some other variations of rules. The group perhaps should come up with 2 or 3 standard versions to play Indoor Ultimate. They also should evaluate whether there might be interest in international championships. Givens felt that, based on these facts, he would support a large group, an opinion supported by van der Valk.

As the scope of the group is not laid out in detail, the board felt that the group should not be empowered to solely devise WFDF Indoor Ultimate rules but make recommendations that would be considered by the Ultimate Rules Subcommittee. Purcell supported establishing a larger group but the WFDF Board should be able to set up a structure within the group to direct it. It was agreed that Victor Katolyk (UKR) who had initially raised the issue would be asked to chair the first meeting for the group and that we would ask the group to choose their own chair. Van der Valk has met Katolyk and vouches for his expertise in this matter.

Rauch asked whether one should get the group going by giving them a scope of work. That motion was made by van der Valk, seconded by Hill. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### **Appointment of WFDF Event Coordinator**

Rauch presented the proposal made by the Selection Committee to appoint Ms. Karina WOLDT as WFDF Event Manager. Woldt has committed to be available for the WFDF events 2014 in Lecco. She has also asked the position to be named “Event Manager” as that has greater credibility for those with whom she would be interacting.

Givens made a motion to appoint Karina Woldt to the position and at the same time to change the name to “Event Manager,” seconded by Hill. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### **PDGA and Sanctioning of European Disc Golf Championship 2014 (EDGC)**

Rauch informed the Board that Paul Francz has asked WFDF to sanction the European Disc Golf Championships as several of the European country participants have indicated they might get financial support if the event were sanctioned by an IOC recognized International Federation. He also added that, separately, it appears likely that WFDF may reach a co-operation agreement to work with PDGA under the WFDF umbrella. Rauch stated that sanctioning of events is indeed one of the things WFDF can bring to the table for Disc Golf. Rauch is inclined to approve the EDGC event, under the conditions that we are comfortable that event appears to be well-organized, have a reasonable budget, and that WFDF is covered for liability issues. Hill added that any opportunity to build bridges to Disc Golf organisations is good. Givens recommends supporting it. Rauch proposed that WFDF not ask for a sanctioning fee for the event, as we have not fully agreed on an arrangement with PDGA as of yet. Rauch explained that WFDF might split event participation fees with PDGA in the future but for this time we should consider our support of EDGC as part of a learning process. Givens mentioned that it is not unprecedented to have dual sanctioning – see BULA and FPA examples – and made a motion to agree to sanction the European Disc Golf Championships, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### **Pro-bono Counsel: Brian Murphy**

Rauch explained that WFDF so far has not had a formal arrangement with an attorney and it might be good to have such access. He has had a discussions with Brian Murphy, who is a practicing attorney in Colorado with a private practice in business contracts and real estate matters, who is willing to provide basic legal services to WFDF on a “pro-bono” basis. Murphy has done work with WFDF and the UPA back in the early 1990s with Rauch, and currently works with PDGA and other disc sports associations.

Rauch proposed that Brian Murphy officially be named as WFDF pro-bono Counsel, seconded by Hill. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### **2013 Congress minutes draft (Rauch)**

After a long, convoluted process to get the first draft, this had been sent to the attendees

of the Congress for comments. After incorporating these comments, the Board was asked to approve the final version of the draft to be sent to Congress for a final vote. Morooka made a motion to approve the draft to be sent to Congress, seconded by Givens. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### **WCBU 2015 - applications**

Rauch opened the discussion on the bids which were received for the 2015 World Championships of Beach Ultimate (WCBU). Van der Valk explained that there were several good bids from the USA, Dubai, and an initial expression of interest from Italy. As the last WCBU was in Italy, the Italians did not send full documents and were excluded from the further review. There were holes in another bid which was not considered for this reason. The Beach Ultimate Committee felt that the proposal from Dubai had the cheapest flights and made most sense from a players perspective and from a geographic diversity perspective. Van der Valk added that there are possible issues with the culture in the United Arab Emirates (e.g. alcohol policies and others) but felt confident that Dubai is a country for tourists. Rauch agreed but indicated that athletes would need to be educated on various issues. Patrick felt strongly that Dubai was the best bid, interesting also as it offered players the opportunity to go to a very different culture. All this led the WFDF Beach Committee and BULA to recommend the Dubai bid.

In Lignano Sabbiadoro 2011 (ITA) there were 74 teams; ECBU 2013 (ESP) was attended by 75 teams - Dubai may have fewer teams, however it is in a very good location for Asian and perhaps even African teams given the fact that Dubai is a central hub for world flights. Questions were raised on the climate. Van der Valk responded that during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> week in March the weather is similar to how it was at the ECBU in Spain in 2013. With the start on 8 March 2015 he expects temperatures of 23° – 29°C.

Rauch asked for comments from the Athletes` Commission. Purcell is intrigued as he has spent a fair amount of time in Dubai and feels that it has a lot to offer and that the hosting of the event will provide the local group a lot of credibility with the authorities. Dubai is surely one of the most progressive countries in the Arabian world, and Purcell felt comfortable that players` behavior should not be a big issue in Dubai.

Rauch mentioned that UAE should achieve WFDF membership by mid 2014.

It was suggested that WFDF might want to speak to a lawyer in Dubai to give advice on several issues like dress codes, special policies, non-discrimination clauses etc.

Van der Valk made a motion to approve the bid from Dubai as hosts to the 2015 World Championships of Beach Ultimate, seconded by Givens. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Rauch added that WFDF would like to see the contract before it is sent. Van der Valk confirmed that he must still go through the budget to make sure that it will work well and that WFDF and BULA will need to get comfortable on the matters which have been discussed. The contract is anticipated to be signed by mid to end of January after which the event would be announced.

## **Reports and Updates**

### **WFDF Governance**

#### **IOC recognition/national NOC recognition - update**

Bernardi reported that WFDF has sent letters to all regular members who are not recognized by their National Olympic Committees recommending contacting the NOCs quickly about national recognition. Several member associations confirmed they have already initiated a process.

Bernardi will be able to meet many of the NOC representatives in Sochi during the Winter Olympic Games and he will give support to the member associations. It will be really useful for WFDF to have a promotional video done by then, and certainly no later than the SportAccord Convention. We have received material from Moro on the WUGC 2012 in Sakai and TWG Television Broadcast material from Hagen Bossdorf (the IWGA Media Consultant). Bossdorf proposed that he could provide a 2 minute video for EUR 650. Rauch added that WFDF wanted to produce a promotional video but that a key point would be to develop a script for such a video. Burvall asked whether all disc sports should be included. Rauch responded that, in terms of the Olympic movement, Ultimate is the premier sport, but we would of course want to have disc sports included in the video as WFDF represents all of them. Bernardi explained that the quality of other materials must be of the same quality as we now have for Ultimate from WUGC and TWG. Rauch added that PDGA should have that material, but for Freestyle and Overall it is unclear. Givens answered that he has some HD material for Freestyle from the latest event he ran. Burvall thinks that there was HD filming at WOC in Sweden this year and he will try to obtain it.

Rauch made a motion to work with the IWGA media people to see if they can produce a video per a script we provide within their proposed budget, seconded by Hill. The motion was accepted unanimously.

#### **Membership issues – update**

Bernardi reported on the latest developments with several membership issues, referring to his written report. There is no development with Belgium as answers are pending. On UAE it is unclear when the Bylaws will be approved by the courts in Dubai and when there will be a movement, but the local group continues to work hard to secure the approval. On the situation in India, Volker proposed we establish a Conduct Committee to review the situation in depth. The Committee would be comprised of the President, Executive Director and another member of the Board, and Givens volunteered to participate.

Givens made a motion to approve the Conduct Committee on India, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was accepted unanimously.

#### **WFDF 2013 elections – information**

Bernardi has nothing to add to the written report.

## **Wheelchair Ultimate - update**

Bernardi reported that the meeting with the IPC Sports Manager had to be moved to early January and that he is in contact with the chair of the IPC Athletes' Commission.

## **Athletes' Commission Update**

Purcell has no report but will have an update during the January meeting. Rauch asked the Commission to focus on the global athletes' questionnaire and give some thoughts as to the election of the next Athletes' Commission during the events in Lecco.

## **IWGA Executive Committee elections 2014 - candidates**

Rauch presented the list of candidates including Fumio Morooka.

## **Anti-Doping**

### **2014 Anti-Doping program plan (Bernardi)**

There was nothing to add to the written report. WADA has approved our 2014 plan and the RTP 2014 is going to be in force from 1 January 2014 through 31 December 2014 and will be announced asap. Rauch gave explanations on the Real Winner educational software which WFDF has purchased from Doping-Free Sport Unit (DFSU) through SportAccord.

## **Events**

### **WUCC / WJUC 2014 Status Report**

Bernardi reported that 102 out of 163 teams have registered so far. The first deadline for entries will be end of the year and 45 teams have paid the team fee so far but we expect many will pay before the end of the year. EUF mentioned problems with communication with TOC, but that has been settled. Hill added that the wait list will allocate additional spots on 1 February 2014, with the eligibility to be set up in January. Hill added that these two tournaments are crucial for WFDF and that while it will be a challenge for the WFDF staff, we are ready for it.

### **WOC 2015 - status of applications - information**

Burvall indicated that there is an initial bid from Sweden, but that he needs more details. More bids from other countries are expected in January and he expects there should be a decision in March.

## **Other Flying Disc sports**

### **Freestyle**

Givens had nothing in particular to report.

## **Overall**

Burvall mentioned that he is excited to work more together with Givens and that he does not want to lose Flying Disc athletes to other non-Flying Disc sports.

## **Finance**

### **Financial statements and membership dues status**

Rauch presented the financial summary provided by the treasurer. He confirmed that WFDF has received the US\$ 25,000 IOC financial support.

Bernardi added that two members still have not paid dues: Iceland and Uganda.

On AOUC the final participation figures were just received and the invoice will be sent shortly.

### **Any other business:**

- Hill thanked everybody for supporting him as UC chair and confirmed he is willing to stay on the Sub-Committee helping with the Ultimate Committee issues. Rauch thanked Hill for stepping up when a chair was needed and for all his contributions over the last three years. Hill would be missed on the Board. Rauch also thanked outgoing Board members Kate Bergeron, who has served as Treasurer and an at-large member, and Guts Committee chair Ryan Scott for his work.
- Morooka asked whether there is a response from SportAccord on the Beach Games request for Beach Ultimate but Bernardi confirmed that there is no answer so far.

### **Next Meeting**

Proposed date: 25/26 January 2014.

### **Closing**

The meeting closed at 1:21 CEST.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary