

## **Saturday, February 28, 2015**

Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015; UK, POR- 22:00; GER, SUI, SWE, RSA - 23:00; USA NY, VA, MI 17:00; USA CO, AZ 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC 14:00; Japan 07:00 (Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>); Taiwan 06:00 (Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>).

### **Board members present:**

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Brian Gisel, Tomas Burvall, Patrick van der Valk, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Kevin Givens, Steve Taylor, Thomas Griesbaum.

Vincent Gaillard present by proxy to Rauch.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, (Executive Director, non-voting), Ryan Purcell (Athletes' Commission, non-voting), Karina Woldt, Event Manager (non-voting).

### **Board members absent/excused:**

Jamie Nuwer, Michael Downes.

### **Call to order (time: 23:04 CET)**

The quorum was reached with 11 votes present.

### **Report by the President**

Rauch welcomed all participants and thanked them for participating.

### **Decisions between meetings**

Written report provided in the Briefing Book including the votes on the WFDF name and logo proposal and the approval of the minutes of the last two Board meetings.

### **Minutes of meeting of January 31, 2015**

There is a change to the minutes as the proposal made by Purcell to fund the project at WCBU was about US\$1,250 and not US\$1,500 as mentioned in the draft of the minutes.

A motion was made to approve the amended minutes by Givens, second Burvall. The motion was accepted unanimously with one abstention.

### **Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board**

#### **WJUC 2016 - host presentation and approval**

Gisel reported that WFDF was not ready to vote on the proposal yet as there were five solid bids received and it would take more time to review the bids. There are three bids from Europe (Poland, Italy, France) shortlisted and being further

considered. All of these bids are close and look good but have several pros and cons. The Event Sub-Committee will finish their vote on Sunday and then make a recommendation for the Board and Ultimate Committee. It was agreed to vote on the bids electronically as soon as possible. Gisel reported that there were two non-European bids (Philippines, Mexico) but that these two bids were not strong enough. Rauch mentioned that this should be made clear in the decision to avoid any misunderstanding on a potential European bias. Gisel added that the process was very straightforward. Purcell recapitulated the recent issues with a lack of bids and asked whether WFDF has plans to nurture these connections and support countries to resubmit bids. That was confirmed by Gisel outlining that every time we open up any bid process we will inform all former bidders explicitly.

### **Qatar and Kenya provisional membership proposals**

Bernardi reported that after a lot of work with representatives from these two countries there are two solid proposals. He thanked van der Valk for his help with the efforts to get them in as WFDF members. WFDF has obtained sufficient evidence of playing activities with pictures and videos. Also these Federations are known to existing WFDF members vouching for them (Uganda for Kenya and United Arab Emirates for Qatar). WFDF has to realize that still in many countries obtaining official legal incorporation is very difficult and sometimes financially challenging. Kenya expects to receive this status soon; Qatar promised to obtain these legal papers, too. Bernardi reminded the Board that we also need to get these proposals approved by Congress within a week in order to make them eligible to play in WCBU.

Bergeron mentioned that it is stated that Kenya does not have a bank account and we should request that in the mid-term.

Rauch commented that it is exciting to see new members from the Middle-East and Africa. There are several more countries in these regions with particular problems to get legal approval. WFDF will check with provisional members and see what they need to do before they are ready to move on to regular membership.

There was a motion made for the Ultimate Players Association of Qatar (UPAQ) to be proposed to Congress for approval of provisional membership by Bergeron, second Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was a motion made for the Kenyan Flying Disc Association (KFDA) to be proposed to Congress for approval of provisional membership by van der Valk, second Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bernardi added that the Congress votes would be sent out immediately later that night.

### **Nominations WFDF TUE Committee - proposal**

Bernardi reported that WFDF was able to find the last candidate to staff the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee (TUEC). UKU have nominated Dr. Usamah Jannoun as a member of the TUEC.

There was a motion made by Burvall to appoint Dr. Jannoun as member of the WFDF TUEC, second Givens. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.

### **Approval of Para Flying Disc Work Plan / IWAS partnership Formation of Para Flying Disc Working Group - proposal**

Bernardi reported that he had met Charmaine Hooper (IWAS CEO) in London. IWAS was the initial world governing body for disabled sports being based in Stoke Mandeville (UK). IWAS offered a formal partnership moving forward establishing Wheelchair Ultimate as sport for the disabled. IWAS in particular can support WFDF with regard to classification and technical requirements. WFDF was not able to find interested persons to represent Disc Golf for the disabled serving as Para Working group members so far. WFDF could formally join the IWAS World Games soon if we would find some national teams competing. Still we will need outside expertise to run a world event properly.

Rauch explained that we would try having some of our work in this new field being done by supporters from an outside group, which can only help us. He proposed to combine the votes on the "Work Plan" and the "Working Group." Morooka recommended having a representative from Japan in the group as there is successful work being done in Japan and committed that JFDA would like to participate.

There was a motion made by Morooka to approve of the two proposals regarding Para Flying Disc, second Givens. The proposals were accepted unanimously.

### **Website Content Review and Revision**

Rauch reported that when WFDF established the new website using a CMS most of the contents were transferred over without being reviewed and thus many contents are now outdated. While we would want to technically update the website design too to set up mobile versions and a responsive design, it probably makes sense that we review the structure and content and update content where needed.

He presented a proposal to have Sandie Hammerly checking page by page and proposing/preparing updates to the contents with a budget of 20 hours of work for US\$500 (which is not currently in the budget). Gisel added that a mobile version will be important to introduce and so Hammerly also should comment on whether or not particular pages needed to be available as a mobile version.

A motion was made to approve the proposal by Rauch, second Givens. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Reports and Updates**

### **WFDF Governance**

#### **Athletes' Commission Report and Survey**

Purcell asked the Board members to support the survey by making athletes from their member associations respond. As per today 795 responses were counted.

On the Coaching and Development workshop at WCBU Purcell reported that this would be close to the fields and he expects to have representatives from each country attending. He has set up a first draft of the program presenting ideas and got feedback. The workshop will receive some support from Five Ultimate and Get Horizontal will do the reporting.

Bernardi added that Purcell had proposed that the Athletes Commission would contribute to the project regarding increasing the number of WFDF country members and he will discuss the matter with Purcell in Dubai.

#### **WFDF Strategic Plan Task list follow up**

Rauch referenced the task list from the strategic plan and updated on the latest developments regarding the January and February tasks to be completed.

Woldt had worked with Bergeron on the event insurance matter and also is solving the short-term issue on the insurance for WCBU.

Rauch had reached out to USAU with regards to TV/Broadcast and had a meeting with CBS Sports on the broadcast side of WUGC 2016 to see if we can get a US broadcaster (ESPN, CBS or others) on board as an anchor, with the goal of seeking global coverage to the extent possible.

Gisel requested to set out another call for development grant applications in 2015. He also reported that a training camp for Game Advisors attracted fairly strong interest mostly in UK and Ireland. It looks like we will get a good number of Game Advisors for WU23. The estimate we had for flight costs for GAs from the USA will be much lower than budgeted.

Rauch reported that he would see that a Social Media volunteer would put forward.

Bernardi mentioned that he and Nuwer managed to find several female members for the medical committees but they are looking for more women willing to contribute to WFDF work. He will try having such a list for the for next board meeting.

Rauch has developed a new document for new membership proposals better outlining the WFDF membership criteria.

Rauch reminded all Board members to follow up on their tasks from the strategic plan and report to the next meeting accordingly.

## **Potential new member countries – status**

Bernardi reported on the WFDF target to reach 75 member associations corresponding to NOC territories by the middle of 2017. Reaching that goal would formally make WFDF eligible for inclusion in an Olympic Summer Games program but also greatly help our own development and growth objectives. He worked with Gabriele Sani who has identified activities in over 140 nations to establish a list of priority targets for WFDF membership. There were requests about a Palestine member (Palestine is recognized by IOC as an NOC) and also messages from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Belarus. Chile will send in papers soon and there are also contacts with Uruguay, Cambodia, and Vietnam. If WFDF could get all current potential countries where there is organized disc sports activity to become members, we would reach 80+ countries.

Rauch added that WCBU has prompted the membership interest and that this is a core root effort we want to build on.

## **2015 Annual Census and dues invoices – status**

Rauch reported that we have 19 replies to the membership census 2015 so far but Bernardi has already started chasing down missing replies while we are still early in the process.

Responses are due by 8 March with membership dues payments being due by 31 March 2015.

## **WFDF Logo and branding project with VC – launch**

Rauch reported that the new logo has been introduced and applied to all printed and electronical media.

## **Other Disciplines**

### **Disc Golf**

Rauch reported that Downes was not able to join the call. Key highlight of his report is the inaugural Team event in 2106. Downes has put forward an initial draft of the bid package for potential bidders. This will be looked at by Woldt, Bernardi, Rauch, and Gisel.

### **Freestyle**

Givens reported that he has obtained preliminary approval from the FPA board for the WFDF World Freestyle championships but there was some reluctance by FPA to consider it as a “major” event and award FPA points. He will join the next FPA board call and make a case to enhance point values as this would make more Freestylers attend.

He started to prepare an international contact list and has asked for the freestyle mailing list for more contacts. Rauch asked how many people got Freestyle points by end of 2014. As per Givens these are around 250 people.

### **Guts**

Taylor reported that he was trying to get updates on AOGCC. There were events in the U.S.A. where possibly Japan and South Korea would attend, perhaps also a women's division.

### **Overall**

Burvall reported that he has worked on certificates/licences. On WOC the registration process is going slow but it is quite early and figures would improve by May.

### **Ultimate Events and others**

#### **WU23 2015 – update**

Bernardi reported from a meeting he had with TOC Simon Hill. UKU will use this event to invite many representatives from UK government and sports associations and has asked WFDF for advice and support.

#### **Continental 2015 (PAUC, AOUC, EUC)**

Bernardi reported that on AOUC 2015 we are still waiting for the budget to be submitted by TOC. TOC (HKUPA) was surprised that we need such a budget and was unsure on participation figures as basis for a budget. On PAUC preparations were on track. All TOCs have been informed on the new logo change and will incorporate the new design now to the event logos.

#### **WCBU 2015 - update**

Van der Valk reported that preparations are going well with some small issues as BULA and TOC are bumping into some cultural differences. They are working with the Dubai Sports Council through an online system. In January we needed a license to get food on fields. Of great concern at this point is that TOC was just informed that they may no longer have approval to use JBR beach. DSC suggested another beach which is a few miles away. That happened on 8 February. Since then we have worked with DSC which has been pushing but all things are moving really slow. TOC might receive more information by tomorrow. But we cannot push too much as it might be taken badly. There is a backup plan what to do if we have to move to other beaches. Biggest concern is food because other beach is in not in an active area. Nonetheless, everything is in place and we can be moved to the backup beach on short notice if necessary.

Rauch asked whether there is a cut-off date for the decision to move to other beaches. Van der Valk mentioned that we can have the Opening as planned and

then move everybody to the new beach. We will hear at the latest on Thursday (when weekend in Dubai) starts. That still gives us some time to set things up.

### **WUGC 2016 – report**

Bernardi mentioned that many preparations for WU23 2015 can and will be used for WUGC 2016 thus making planning very sustainable. The venue has been commented on as being perfect, also for WUGC 2016.

### **World Indoor Ultimate Championship 2017**

Rauch reported that the indoor development group would be pushed to host an indoor championship for January or February 2017.

### **World Games 2017**

Bernardi reported that WFDF was still unsatisfied with the WOC venue proposal at the old Slask football stadium. We have now achieved a proposal that we can use the Olympic stadium but our dates would have to be moved away from the weekend to the middle of the second week and that would cost us spectators for sure. IWGA is trying to have the dates switched again. There is a new issue coming up as the Olympic stadium will be equipped with artificial turf with permanently painted lines for American Football. The latter could be a challenge. Bernardi will try to meet with IWGA CEO Gossow asap and see if there is news.

Rauch pointed the Board to the draft of the Tournament Director's Manual submitted by Woldt and asked to comment on the paper before the next meeting. Van der Valk asked for a word file to be sent for easier editing.

## **Finance**

### **Treasurer report**

Bergeron reported that membership dues were expected to start coming in now as the invoices are sent and there is not much to report here.

### **Other business**

Bernardi asked the disc sport committee chairs to let him know if they were not going to submit a written report for a Board meeting so he could plan the briefing book accordingly.

Gisel reported that the Board had agreed that we are not in favor of the crowd funding proposal for live streaming of WU23 2015 with a US\$30,000 budget. Trotter from Skyd has asked now what WFDF's budget would be. Rauch commented that we don't have a budget but as long as there is a sensible plan for distribution and coverage we could afford possibly US\$5,000. Gisel added that Trotter is trying to come up with a lowest cost proposal. Rauch added that TOC (Hill) is looking for a local company which would save the significant transport costs.

Bernardi mentioned that TOC for EUC had made a similar request for the broadcast for EUC and reminded the board that simultaneously the IOC session in Kuala Lumpur will be held. It might be useful to spend money for an EUC broadcasting with this special audience. Rauch commented that this would be a question of the universality of the audience. What is EUC looking for? For EUC it would be less than US\$ 5,000. The question is who will do it and how will it be distributed. Is there a third party group? We need more details before we can make a response how much WFDF would invest.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting was proposed for 11/12 April 2015.

### **Closing**

Rauch thanked everyone for their contribution.

The meeting closed at 00:35 CET.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary