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**Saturday, September 12, 2015**

Saturday September 12<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 06:00 (Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>); Taiwan 05:00 (Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>).

**Board members present:**

Robert Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Steve Taylor, Tomas Burvall, Kevin Givens, Jamie Nuwer, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Ryan Purcell (by proxy to Griesbaum).

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, (Executive Director, non-voting), Karina Woldt, Event Manager (non-voting).

**Board members absent/excused:**

Vincent Gaillard, Michael Downes.

**Call to order (time: 23:05)**

The quorum was reached with 12 votes present (8 needed).

**Report by the President**

Rauch welcomed the participants and thanked all for participating.

**Decisions between meetings**

Congress approval of the regular WFDF membership of the Georgia Flying Disc Federation (GFDF) and the provisional WFDF membership of the Chilean Flying Disc Association (AChU).

**Minutes of 27 June 2015 meeting**

A motion was made to approve of the minutes by Givens, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

**Membership application from Malaysia as regular member**

Bernardi reported that WFDF is speeding up with new membership applications and the consolidation or upgrade of existing memberships. He completed a long negotiated settlement with the incumbent and currently active association in Malaysia as the transition from the old member association to the new one is now concluded and they submitted their application for an upgrade to regular membership.

There was a motion to approve the proposal to send the application of the Malaysian Flying Disc Association (MFDA) to the Congress for final approval made by Givens, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

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### **Membership application from Guam as regular member (Bernardi)**

Bernardi reported that the Guam Ultimate for All association (GUFA) has applied for regular membership. Guam would be the third WFDF member association from Oceania. There was a motion to approve the proposal to send the application of the Guam Ultimate for All Association (GUFA) to the Congress for final approval made by Givens, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Membership application from Morocco as regular member**

Bernardi reported that the application for regular membership sent by the Morocco Flying Disc Association (MFDA) has been in progress for a number of years. The federation has further developed and he believes that they meet all the standards for full membership. There was a long discussion on the true level of activity within the country and as to whether or not this application should be voted upon now or further information be requested from Morocco. Bernardi reported that MFDA has hosted national tournaments and had received a WFDF development grant in 2014. It was agreed that the application should be tabled and further information on the level of current activities in the country be requested as defined by the Board in the coming week.

### **Appointments to new WFDF Beach Ultimate Committee**

Van der Valk reported that in order to reanimate the Beach Ultimate Committee he wanted to propose some changes to the membership. He is still waiting for a proposal for a member from Spain but he needs the Committee going in particular to look at bids for WCBU. Bernardi asked whether we would request CVs from the new members as we usually do. Rauch added that bios are used just to get background on the people and that is no new requirement. For a new committee it might be helpful if prospective members could provide a CV but he felt comfortable to move on.

There was a motion to approve of the new composition of the Beach Ultimate Committee by Givens, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

(Ryan Purcell joined the meeting).

### **Approval of new WFDF SOTG Committee structure**

Van der Valk reported that SOTG was never really on a WFDF Board level but just an Ultimate Committee Sub-Committee. Hence he sent in a proposal to have SOTG as a top level WFDF Committee for all disc sports with the chair of the Ultimate SOTG Sub-Committee also being the chair of the general SOTG Committee. On the downside this would mean an extended Board size by one member what would cause higher costs for a face to face Board meeting, but should not increase time for board conference calls. Rauch agreed that such a proposal would make sense but coming to a Board that grows bigger and bigger is a problem. We are now at a 14 person Board and that is already huge, given that it is a working board that has been meeting 8-9 times per year. In any case this would require a Bylaws revision. Rauch suggested thinking about whether we need other structural governance changes before we make a decision on this proposal. From bottom up it makes sense, but from top down we should think about how we should run ourselves. Rauch thinks about having more of a bottom up play related group

and another higher level group doing more of a strategic business direction. Rauch proposed to collect feedback on this from the current Board members now or within the next few days. One should also think about whether WFDF might be missing something because we it is difficult to bring in someone from the outside who might have specific strategic experience. Van der Valk asked whether this could be an advisory board. Rauch mentioned that according to the German model there could be a supervising board and a functional board.

He just would want to make sure that if we need to change the Bylaws we have a closer look at other Board changes we might need. With 15 members it is a big Board. Van der Valk asked about other potential board members one could see come in. Rauch added that one should look for persons like Gaillard who now cannot join monthly calls but is available for advice at all times. Asking some to do this only 3-4 times a year can raise their participation. Van der Valk agreed that this makes sense and asked to put any ideas on the table. But we only have two more meetings before end of the year so we need suggestions by the next meeting. He just wants to have SOTG at top level. Rauch supported that but reiterated that he is concerned that the overall structure is getting too big. It was proposed that together with Gaillard one should examine practices of other International Federations. It was agreed to table the topic.

#### **Appointments to new WFDF SOTG Sub-Committee**

Van der Valk proposed a change in the SOTG Sub-Committee composition adding Dan Raabe. Morooka suggested to replace Makoto Ohi with Yuta Saito.

There was a motion to approve of the new composition of the SOTG Sub-Committee by Givens, seconded by Purcell. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **TDGWC 2016 - decision on bid and location**

Woldt presented the recommendation made by the Disc Golf Committee on the bid from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada to host the Team Disc Golf World Championships 2016 on a 18 hole course (+ another 18 for this event) after a date conflict was resolved; the new date is 21<sup>st</sup> July to the 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. Downes knows the bidders and they have run very successful events in the past. There would be some 12-16 teams as a conservative estimation at 5-6 players per team. Morooka inquired about a potential date conflict with US Open Overall championships. Burvall reported that these are held from June 26<sup>th</sup> to July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Woldt also reached out to EDGC but there was no conflict there and added that TOC is not a member of WFDF but has PDGA behind them.

There was a motion to approve of the bid by Gisel, seconded by Givens. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Broadcast streaming and production partner proposal**

Gisel reported about his discussion with Skyd. If we want professional high quality videoing for our events someone has to pay for it: players, sponsors, WFDF. He mentioned that the deal for WU23 was "bare bones". In 2016 the cost would be USD 7,000 for the same level. We could try to create a pay-per-view revenue stream. Gisel

would love to have 4 cameras at finals and two video teams to cover more than one field. Van der Valk added that when he worked with Skyd the big portion of the costs were the flights for personnel and equipment, and that in Europe Playo worked well without having the high logistical expenses. Gisel agreed that, if there is another option in Europe which is cheaper at the same quality, that it would be fully acceptable. Bernardi asked for a proper RFP be sent out on any possible contract. He also questioned whether WFDF wanted to give as many people as possible the chance to watch or rather get money. Gisel confirmed that if other companies want to bid that is good. Van der Valk asked whether we could have 50% of the games for free and 50% as pay-per-view option.

Rauch asked Bernardi to draft a RFP shortly and others to review. Purcell agreed that people want to watch games and prefer to watch free but asked whether WFDF wants to pay for it as strategic objective. Rauch added that WFDF wants to showcase our sport. As a goal we are looking to get more broadcast coverage with a higher quality production. You have a tradeoff if you want to show off your sport and at the same time charge for watching. Gisel added that final viewership figures were estimated by Skyd to be in the area of 109,000 unique views for the 21 games broadcast. The Open and Women final were the two most viewed games with 21,981 total views. Purcell asked whether WFDF would want to focus on higher quality for one field or cover more fields. Van der Valk reported that at WCBU they tried to get every country streamed at least once live. Even if some countries will only attract low viewership numbers but those numbers are worth a lot to those involved. It was agreed that streaming can potentially generate some revenue if it is done in good quality. The last games like Semifinals or Finals attract most viewers but earlier games are good for developing countries.

Bernardi will draft a RFP for the 2016 events (WUGC and WJUC) separately offering to bid for both events or one event separately.

### **World Record Standards and Policies Document**

Burvall reported that a lot of work was done on the new world record criteria by Dan Roddick, himself, and the Overall Committee. Among the changes he noted that overall record attempts must be made at a WFDF approved event. The record attempt must be approved by WFDF officials at least 3 months prior to the date of the event. The record attempt must be widely advertised at least 2 months in advance allowing interested athletes to participate. The full set of criteria will be published on WFDF's web site. Rauch added that this was an ongoing process and Roddick has been running this over the decades, so the update is well-received.

A motion was made to approve of the new criteria and policies by Givens, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Ultimate English teaching proposal - ESL Teacher**

Rauch presented the proposal supporting to support teaching basic English relating to onfield Ultimate and SOTG issues. Van der Valk added that François-Xavier Priour, a translator and ESL teacher in France, whose son plays Ultimate noticed at EYUC 2015

that there is an issue with communication. He wants to develop a basic “English language for Ultimate” so that players can better communicate on the field, admitting that WFDF might not have the resources. He would lead it and asks WFDF to announce it to the community and ask for volunteers here.

A motion was made to approve the proposal by Burvall, seconded by Purcell. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Development Grant program 2015 - final decision**

Gisel reported on the final proposal to allocate the 2015 WFDF development grants. The Commission had recommended initially 4 grants to be given to countries from 4 different continents and ExCom had suggested to support a total of 7 projects as mentioned in the briefing book, going to Nicaragua, India (2 projects), Cambodia, Hungary, Venezuela and Kenya.

A motion was made to approve the proposal by Givens, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Appointment of WFDF Development Director**

Gisel reported that Gabriele Sani has volunteered to support the development of disc sports around the world aimed at smaller communities, just starting to grow, not yet ready for WFDF membership. His idea is to do a thorough research through social media to identify contacts from our sport. The proposal would include the addition of Sani to the WFDF Sport for All / Development Commission.

A motion was made to approve of the appointment of Sani as Development Director and his addition to the Commission by van der Valk, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Reports and Updates**

#### **WFDF Governance**

##### **IOC recognition - update**

Bernardi reported that the International Olympic Committee at its Session in Kuala Lumpur on 2 August 2015 has granted full recognition to WFDF. The briefing book includes the confirmation letters sent by the IOC President Dr. Bach and the IOC Sports Department and as well the confirmation letter on the payment of the annual IOC subsidy of USD 25,000 for 2015. WFDF has already received the funds. Connected to the announcement of the recognition WFDF had obtained a tremendous global media coverage.

##### **SportAccord status - update**

Bernardi reported that SportAccord has called for an extraordinary assembly to be held on 11 November 2015 in Lausanne. A lot of changes will be executed as Bylaws will be amended. The SportAccord World Beach Games project is considered canceled. There

will be an ANOC World Beach Games and its program seems not to be finalized. WFDF will apply for inclusion in the program.

#### **Athlete`s Commission Report and survey**

Purcell reported that the fellow Commission members have not contributed so much over past year and he will try to get in closer contact with them. He hopes to have feedback from them for the next Board meeting.

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

Rauch reminded the Board members to take care of their projects for which they took responsibility.

#### **Potential new member countries - status**

The topic was postponed to the next Board meeting.

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

The topic was postponed to the next Board meeting.

### **Other Disciplines**

#### **Disc Golf**

Rauch referred the Board members to the written report.

#### **Freestyle**

Givens reported on the FPA World Championships which were held recently in Karlsruhe (GER) with 114 participants and about 8,000 spectators. The event was a huge success. WFDF Worlds at WOC showed for first time no North American on the podium. The event was considered a success too.

#### **Guts**

Taylor reported that they would have a team from India at AOGCC. He needed to understand how he can get these players approved to play at WUGC 2016. Rauch explained that some of our members are multisport federations, e.g. Sweden. On the other hands some members only care for Ultimate. Rauch confirmed that the Guts players would not need to join any other organization to play WUGC.

#### **Overall**

Burvall has worked on the world records topic with Roddick and is asking for a WOC bid for 2016.

### **Ultimate Events and others**

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

Woldt asked whether WFDF would sanction the 2016 EDGC in Finland as we did last year. There was no outreach by the TOC about that so far so we need to check with them as last year the request for sanctioning came from the organizers.

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The AAUC in Kampala (UGA) are running well and we should be satisfied with this inaugural event.

#### **WUGC 2016 - report**

Gisel reported that there is no news and we are starting to move forward seeing how many teams will come in.

#### **World Games 2017**

Bernardi reported that WFDF currently discusses officials' quotas with IWGA as for the need to introduce Game Advisors, as this is completely new for World Games. We are looking forward to receive and sign the IF passport.

#### **Finance**

##### **Treasurer report**

Bergeron reported that there is nothing outstanding except that the expenditures are a bit lower than expected, which is good. The auditor work for 2014 is in the works and, while it has taken far too long this year, we are told it should be completed shortly.

##### **Other business**

Van der Valk referred to his written report including the Beach Ultimate development grant asking for the reserved WFDF development grant money to be spent here. They will send out a request for proposals for the grants and he expects to have the proposals up for decision by WFDF by January 2016. As there is a proposal to have Beach Ultimate leagues he would like the first batch of money sent out to groups which are trying to set up these leagues locally. Rauch asked that more projects be supported with smaller budgets. A few hundred dollars can go a long way in many countries

##### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting was proposed for October 3 or 4, 2015.

**Closing:** 01:20h

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary