Minutes of the Meeting of the WFDF Board of Directors

Saturday, February 27, 2016

Saturday February 27th, 2016; UK, POR- 22:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 23:00; RSA- 00:00 (28 February); QAT- 01:00 (28 February); USA NY, VA, MI- 17:00; USA CO, AZ- 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC- 14:00; JPN- 07:00 (28 February); TPE- 06:00 (28 February).

Board members present:
Robert “Nob” Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Tomas Burvall, Steve Taylor, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Kevin Givens, Jamie Nuwer, Ryan Purcell.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, Executive Director (non-voting), Karina Woldt, Event Manager (non-voting) and Tim Rockwood, Managing Director of Broadcasting and Marketing (non-voting).

Board members absent/excused:
Michael Downes, Caroline Malone.

Call to order (time: 23:07)

The quorum was reached with 12 votes, with 8/14 needed.

Report by the President
Rauch welcomed the participants and thanked all for their participation.

Decisions between meetings

The proposal on the WFDF Spirit partnership with E.R.I.C. as sent to the Board on 2 February was approved by 11 members voting yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. The proposal on the WUGC 2016 TV Broadcast as sent to the Board on 2 February was approved by 11 members voting yes, 2 no, 0 abstentions. A total number of 13 members participated in both of the votes with a quorum of 8/13 needed.

Minutes of 24 January 2016 meeting

Burvall asked to add that the tournament manual has been sent out the day before to those bidding for the 2017 World Overall Championships.

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

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

World Championships of Beach Ultimate 2017 - host decision

Van der Valk reported that the Events Sub-Committee has evaluated all incoming bids via spread sheet with scoring options. Based on this they have proposed Rohan (FRA) as hosts of WCBU 2017. The recommendation was unanimously supported by the Beach Ultimate Committee. There are still some questions to be answered by 15 March. It is recommended to the Board to support the French bid.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal by Purcell, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.
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Pan American Ultimate Championships 2017 - host decision

Gisel reported that both bids from Argentina had been supported by ADDVRA. The Ultimate Committee proposes the bid from Buenos Aires for approval. Woldt added that the TOC has already a long history in running the Espiritu Sudaka Tournament.

A motion was made to approve of the bid from Buenos Aires by van der Valk, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

All Africa Ultimate Championships 2017 - host decision

Gisel reported on the bids received from Egypt and Kenya. The Ultimate Committee recommends the bid from Nairobi (Kenya). Rauch confirmed that the player sanctioning fees would be waived again by WFDF to help establish the event.

A motion was made to approve of the bid from Kenya by Purcell, seconded by Givens. The motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF Beach Ultimate Committee appointments of members

Van der Valk presented the proposal to add two new members from USA to the Beach Ultimate Committee. Sean McCall and Byron Hicks are endorsed by USAU. Since the USA is the only nation to have two representatives it was agreed that together they will only have one vote. He also proposed Will Christopherson (AUS) to be added to the Committee.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal by Purcell, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.

WFDF SOTG Sub-Committee chair approval in UC

Gisel proposed that the new SOTG Ultimate Sub-Committee chair Richard Moore (AUS) as a new Ultimate Committee member, replacing Patrick van der Valk as outgoing chair.

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

Approval - Olympic Movement Code for preventing competition manipulation for WFDF

Bernardi reported that the IOC has adopted the code as a reaction on the current problems in sport governance. The proposal is to adopt the code to be referenced within WFDF’s existing rules against illegal and irregular betting and match-fixing.

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

WFDF policy on transgender inclusion

Rauch stated that WFDF has not yet developed a policy on transgender issues and that this question might come up sooner or later. Nuwer agreed to take on the responsibility to draft a policy as head of the Medical Commission and having drafted one for USA Ultimate. The IOC had released their most recent policy in November 2015 and Nuwer will look to confirm to that as a guideline together with a review of the policies of other IFs. Board members should direct any comments to Nuwer immediately as she will seek to present a draft policy in one of the next couple board meetings.
WFDF Conflict of Interest policy and forms for Board

Rauch mentioned that Bernardi has sent the conflict of interest policy and form to all Board members and members should send back the completed form by end of the week to be checked by the WFDF Ethics Commission.

WFDF and Disc Golf - PDGA MOU Termination

Rauch reported that the PDGA termination of the MoU and the membership in WFDF affects WFDF members who represent multiple disciplines. Rauch spoke to Brian Graham of the PDGA and they believe they can grow Disc Golf internationally best on their own. Rauch commented that WFDF has a responsibility to govern all disc sports per our IOC mandate and given the needs of several of our members, so he proposed to reconstitute the Disc Golf committee with representatives of WFDF member associations with disc golf activities. Rauch confirmed that PDGA remains committed to hosting the World Team Disc Golf Championships event in 2016 in Vancouver along with WFDF. PDGA acknowledged the need for a WFDF Disc Golf Committee, and agreed to allow WFDF to continue to apply the PDGA disc approval process standards and rules. Michael Downes will step down from the board on 29 February 2016. Next steps are the search for a Disc Golf Committee chair and coordinate with other like-minded member associations’ representatives.

A motion was made to approve of this plan by Rauch, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athlete’s Commission Report

Purcell asked for support in finding candidates for the Athlete’s Commission elections 2016 at WUGC.

Potential new member countries - status

Bernardi referenced his written report and gave explanations on some potential new member countries. Rauch requested that going forward WFDF only accept Flying Disc associations as new members being responsible for all Flying Disc sports in their countries instead of Ultimate-only associations, given that we will need to have our members move toward unified associations to conform to IOC norms.

Census and Dues

Bernardi reported that the last membership dues for 2015 have been paid and that the 2016 member census is awaiting approval by Executive Committee to be sent out to member associations.

It was confirmed that member associations would be allowed to pay their dues on-site at WUGC and still be able to play.

Multisport Events Involvement - WBG, FISU WUC

Bernardi reported that there is no news on the World Beach Games but ANOC officials have confirmed plans are moving ahead.
Unfortunately, the FISU application process was postponed and delayed to October 2016.

Broadcast and Kickstarter campaign

Rockwood gave explanations on his report. There is an offer on the table by one of the US sports network for a same day programming slot. He is still talking with other networks too. Rauch confirmed that one of our member associations may be willing to contribute US$25,000. The Kickstarter campaign needs more support and there is a need to reach more people to make it a success.

Other Disciplines

Disc Golf incl. TDGWC update

Rauch reported that Downes has sent a last report on Disc Golf. Woldt reported that USA and CAN are interested to play in Vancouver and there are 8 other countries interested.

Freestyle

There was no new report on Freestyle.

Guts

Taylor reported on the progress made in getting more international teams to come to WUGC 2016.

Overall

Burvall reported that he is looking for bids to come in for WOC 2017.

Ultimate Events and others

WUGC 2016 - report

Woldt reported that while teams from 44 countries want to come and everybody paid the initial registration fee, it is expected that some nations will drop out when it comes to paying the players’ fees. TOC has secured the Allianz stadium where the finals will take place, and a smaller venue in the area has been secured where extra games will be scheduled to alleviate the stress on the main fields site.

WJUC 2016

Woldt reported that she will visit TOC together with Bernardi during the upcoming week to discuss the Master Plan. TOC is late in launching the website and WFDF has taken over the registration. There will be more to report at the next meeting.

Finance

Treasurer report

Bergeron reported about the financials.

Next Meeting
The next meeting is proposed for March 12 or 13.

Closing: 01:00 h

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary