

Saturday, July 30, 2016

Saturday July 30th, 2016; UK, POR- 22:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 23:00; RSA- 23:00; QAT- 00:00 (Sunday, July 31st); USA NY, VA, MI- 17:00; USA CO, AZ- 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC- 14:00; JPN- 06:00 (Sunday, July 31st); TPE- 05:00 (Sunday, July 31st).

Board members present:

Robert “Nob” Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Charlie Mead, Tomas Burvall, Fumio Morooka, Caroline “Caz” Malone, Kevin Givens.

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

Board members absent/excused:

Ryan Purcell, Michael Hu, Jamie Nuwer, Steve Taylor.

Call to order (time: 23:04)

The quorum was reached with 10 votes, with 8/14 needed.

Report by the President

Rauch welcomed the participants and thanked all for their participation.

Decisions between meetings

None.

Minutes of 12 June 2016 meeting

Burvall asked for the minutes be amended regarding the sanctioning of the US Open Overall. The four events in 2014 (DDC, SCF, Accuracy and Distance) should be named and afterwards five disciplines should be sanctioned. He will provide the wording for an amendment of that part.

With these changes accepted a motion was made to approve of the minutes by Givens, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

2015 audited financials

Bergeron presented the 2015 audited financials and underlined that these reflect the figures which were presented to Congress. A change needs to be made as the IOC recognition dates will have to be corrected. The change will be made before presenting the financials to Congress for formal approval.

With these changes accepted a motion was made to approve of the 2015 audited financials by Gisel, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

Commercial and Broadcast plans for 2016-2017

Rauch referenced the report sent by Rockwood and asked to treat this as confidential. Rockwood added that this report openly reflects the actual happenings from WUGC in London and WFDF clearly had a mixed success, with the most professional streaming coverage ever but mixed quality on the finals production. WFDF must think through how to gain enough sponsorship for future events. WFDF gave CBS the right of first refusal for North American rights for next year. If CBS would give WFDF an anchor telecast that could add a selling point some ten months ahead instead of two months like last time.

Global Disc Community Survey

Rauch presented the draft of the questionnaire which attracted 3,400 responses last time mentioning that WFDF would want to see some 5,000 responses this time. He asked the board members for comments to be sent as soon as possible to finalize the form and publish the survey with a final cutoff in mi-September.

WFDF 2016 Development Program Status and grants decision

Gisel presented the proposal made by the WFDF Sport for All / Development Commission on the development grant awards for 2016. WFDF has received 19 applications and he had looked at all applications in London and shortlisted them. There were several incomplete bids and after the review 9 applications remained on the desk.

The bids from Bolivia and Sri Lanka clearly should be accepted as they were the only bids remaining from their regions. Three bids came in from Africa and four from Europe that were of good quality. The clear winners were the bids from South Africa and the Ukraine. The remaining US\$ 200 was allocated to Mozambique. He added that the Commission felt that the bidders should get the money they were asking for and not be reduced to have more projects supported, despite Rauch's questioning of whether spreading the funding across more projects might not incubate more development.

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

Disc Golf - PDGA Europe Transition Plan

Mead reported that the Disc Golf situation is currently being sorted out in Europe. PDGA has been pushing forward with PDGA Europe but there have been concerns raised by WFDF members who are multi-discipline associations already overseeing disc golf and other concerns about development and amateur efforts. He added that there would be a meeting at the Disc Golf European Championships in three weeks in Finland where this would be discussed.

Rauch put the question in the context of the IOC and Olympic Movement. The IOC is trying to ensure that various sports are consolidated under related sports umbrellas and the IOC believes that all disc sports should be recognized under one umbrella. It cannot be expected that Disc Golf would be recognized as a standalone sport. Several younger WFDF member associations have established Ultimate-only organizations but, to be consistent with the IOC objectives, we would need them to be one NGB per sport (representing different disciplines). This had been discussed at length at Congress in June.

Rauch proposed that the Board supports the action plan presented by Mead to reach out to the PDGA as well as WFDF country members to get input and ensure there is a cooperative

effort, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

Rights and responsibilities of the disc sports committees

Van der Valk reported that sometimes he is not clear what the WFDF Committees are allowed to do and when topics must go to the Board level. As an example he mentioned the raising of the Women Masters age which took off within BULA but got stopped in order to cohere with the age at grass Ultimate. He also wanted to know whether Committee members are approved by a national member association of the WFDF Board.

Rauch commented that looking at the Women Masters age he was concerned about the claim that men and women should have same entry age and he also wanted to avoid a disparity between grass and beach ultimate as there is so much overlap in many countries.

Rauch also stated that WFDF should involve NGBs as it might influence their national program, so he thought that delaying such a decision to get input was appropriate. He added that changing eligibility rules or making new qualification rules should go through the Board as it might be an issue of policy, consistency, impact on NFs, affecting internal member policies, or something else. That is the distinction on devolving responsibility to Committees and it is not always so easy to decide. Changing a qualification age is the type of thing requiring board approval as it could potentially harm the viability of the Women Masters division.

But this is not singling out beach Ultimate, as van der Valk was concerned about. We now have a formal procedure for election of Ultimate Committee members. This increases acceptance of these Committees' decisions as key constituents are involved formally. The Committees of other disciplines are not as formalized for a variety of reasons.

Van der Valk mentioned that he has hardly seen decision making processes in the Ultimate Committee. Gisel responded that as for the Ultimate Committee he thinks that they spend time discussing what the 2018 WJUC should be and often have decisions they give to the Board to decide. Van der Valk commented that he meant going to members and asking them to give feedback is rare.

Rauch added that an age change has huge impact. That is why this a different question which needs to be given deeper thought. Van der Valk responded that this was a decision BULA wanted to take specifically for WCBU 2017 but Rauch mentioned that as a WFDF Board we need to think about implications beyond WCBU 2017.

Website and digital

Van der Valk commented that WFDF is growing quickly and people working are constantly busy. WFDF needs improvements as sometimes it takes time to update the WFDF website. He requested that Board members should be able to update parts of the website and we must make things easier for ourselves. He asked how we can make our processes easier, preferably digital. We can do a much better job on the website, e.g. adding Beach Ultimate news there. Van der Valk asked whether WFDF wants to invest time in this and whether there is a budget for it.

Rauch commented that this would be an appropriate topic for the in-person meeting in October.

Timeline for WFDF partnerships, disc, photo, merchandise, video

Van der Valk wanted to know earlier (end of September) who will be official merchandiser and need to sign a deal by end of September, video contract by end of October for the 2017 events.

Rauch commented that on merchandising, apparel and discs there have been preliminary discussions with our current partners and potential aspirants. WFDF targets to have the respective RFPs pulled together by end of September with decisions to be taken by mid-October.

For discs we are going to be comfortable going out to all disc manufacturers who are championship-approved and asking them to send in RFPs.

On the topic of colored discs being evaluated, Bergeron will reach out to the disc approval committee.

Meeting: Face-to-Face Board 2016 / Congress 2017

The in-person Board meeting was proposed to be held in New York (USA) on 22/23 October 2016.

The 2017 WFDF Congress was proposed to be held on the occasion of WCBU in Royen, France (18-24 June 2017) on the Saturday before the event starting date (17 June 2017).

The respective motion was made by van der Valk, seconded by Givens and Gisel, and approved unanimously.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athlete's Commission Report

There was no report.

Census process update/membership dues invoices

Bernardi reported that there are problems with census data and membership dues with Iceland and Panama. The payment from Argentina did not come through so far. Uganda has requested a 50% reduction on the dues under the "special terms of payment" clause of the bylaws.

A motion was made to accept the reduction of 50% for Uganda by Rauch, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Disc Sport Reports

Guts

There was no report.

Freestyle

Givens reported about the event Overall in Santa Cruz with 28 teams and 90 players.

The FPA WC begins next Wednesday in Brooklyn with 90 participants and the Hall of Fame will be established and streamed live.

Rauch asked about news on the WFDF Freestyle World Championships. Givens reported that FPA would sign on calling the Freestyle part of Overall as official WFDF Freestyle World Championships. Woldt will take over the preparation of the contract.

Beach Ultimate

Van der Valk referenced his written report.

Championship Events and others

WUGC 2016 - report

Gisel reported that TOC in London is still wrapping up the event and further information would be given at the next meeting.

WJUC 2016 - report

There was no particular report.

TDGWC 2016 - report

There was no particular report.

Americas Masters Games - Vancouver

Gisel reported that despite not having a huge feedback they decided to have the event and the registration has started with 3 men and 3 women's teams registered. Gisel will provide an update after his vacation.

WUCC and WJUC 2018

On the bid reviews for WUCC and WJUC 2018 Gisel reported that the assessments have been completed by the Events Sub-Committee and they have recommended Cincinnati (USA) for WUCC and Waterloo (CAN) for WJUC. The Ultimate Committee has voted unanimously for Cincinnati and with 4:1 votes for Waterloo. The Board members have received the bids and the quality of the bids is very strong. There are minor questions, but no problem which could not be ironed out. One red flag with Juniors is not holding the event in Europe after four cycles being in Europe. Gisel hoped that the European NFs can organize and bring up more teams than in 2006 as the price is fairly good. On WUCC in Cincinnati, Gisel reported that USAU is fully behind this bid while they had refused approvals of several other bids in past years.

A motion was made to approve of the bids by Gisel, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

PAUCC 2017

The event can be announced immediately.

Finance

Treasurer report

Bergeron reported that so far the revenue in 2016 has been slightly ahead of projections despite some dues missing and some outstanding expenses.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is proposed for 10/11 September 2016.

Closing: 01:15 h

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary