

Sunday January 21st, 2018; UK, POR- 14:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 15:00; RSA- 16:00; USA NY, VA, MI 09:00; USA CO, AZ 07:00; USA CA, CAN BC 06:00; Japan 23:00; Taiwan 22:00; Hong Kong 22:00; Philippines 22:00.

Board members present:

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Karen Cabrera, Jamie Nuwer, Fumio Morooka, Tomas Burvall, Ryan Purcell.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, (Executive Director, non-voting), Tim Rockwood (non-voting), Jennifer Thomas (non-voting), Karina Woldt (Event Manager, non-voting), Gabriele Sani (Development Program).

Board members absent/excused:

Kate Bergeron, Charlie Mead, Amandine Constant, Kevin Givens, Steve Taylor, Caroline Malone.

Call to order (time: 15:08 CET)

The quorum was reached with 8 votes of 8/14 needed.

Report by the President

Rauch welcomed all attendees and thanked all for their participation.

Decisions between meetings

(none)

Minutes of last meeting - 17 December 2017

A motion was made by Purcell to approve the minutes of the 17 December 2017 meeting, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

WFDF Transgender Policy Update on minors

Nuwer reported that the WFDF Medical Committee had completed the proposal for an amendment of the Transgender Policy in regard to youth players. Two age related categories (between 15 years and 20 years of age and below 15 years) had been added because gender transition must occur more quickly at young ages than at adult age. While the WFDF Medical Committee could not find such regulations for minors by the IOC or other IFs the proposal is based on the professional experience of the endocrinologist member of the committee.

A motion was made by Morooka to approve the recommended amendment to WFDF Transgender Policy for youth players, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

2018 Anti-Doping Testing Pool and Plan

Bernardi presented the testing pool of 9 athletes. It is made up of players from the top 6 nations from the WFDF World Ultimate Rankings. The top three nations had nominated 2 candidates each and the next three one candidate each. The members of this pool are available for out of competition testing. Bernardi underscored that it is very important that the members of the testing pool also attend WUCC 2018, since out of competition testing will again be done at WUCC on the opening day. The WUCC 2018 would be used as the in-competition testing event. Every athlete reaching a final can be tested. As before, all athletes will have to pass an Anti-Doping online quiz.

Bernardi reported that at the World Games 2017 half of the athletes in the testing pool were not selected to join their respective national team. If this happened again WADA might ask for a larger testing pool which automatically would lead to more tests needing to be done. Rauch concluded that this must be communicated to the NGBs more clearly and they should be reminded to adhere to the deadlines given by IWGA for the 2021 TWG.

A motion was made by Nuwer to approve the Anti-Doping Testing Pool and Plan 2018, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Commercial and Broadcast plans for 2017-2018

Rockwood reported that 5 production companies' proposals to cover the WUCC 2018 had been received of which 3 were currently being considered together by USAU and the WUCC organizing committee.

Currently 10 potential commentators were being considered, 5 female and 5 male, 5 from the USA and 5 from other countries. There are chances that games from up to 4 fields might be streamed live.

Through USAU it is possible that ESPNU (ESPN college sports) will broadcast the 3 final games but WFDF will have to cover the costs for their production company. Currently it was planned to stream/broadcast at least 64 games. Outside of North America, a Swedish company has expressed interest for syndicating the 3 final games.

Bernardi reported that the World Games channel and the Olympic channel have expressed interest to cooperate for the WUCC 2018. He will forward the respective contact to Rockwood.

Gisel stated that WFDF will have control over which games will be broadcast. WFDF is looking into applying complete gender equity for the broadcast games while covering every country at least once.

Rockwood added that WFDF has informed all production crews that their gender ratio should be as close to 50/50 as possible.

Disc Golf Committee appointment

Rauch presented a proposal by Disc Golf Committee Chair Mead to add Sara A.E. Nicholson as a new member to the Disc Golf Committee.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve this proposal, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously.

IT project and website revamp

Rauch thanked Woldt for making many suggestions to improve the new WFDF web site. He remarked that there was still more work to be done before the site could be launched. He asked for a Board member to be part of a vetting group to look through the new web site. It should be taken care that all content would be migrated from the old web site. Griesbaum offered to help.

Approved Disc Policy

Rauch explained that the current Approved Disc Policy for Ultimate discs was passive in that WFDF accepts all discs accepted by USAU, who does extensive testing which WFDF cannot do. But WFDF does not have a policy which regulates how manufacturers can use the approval for advertising.

As for approving Disc Golf discs he suggested to have an event based approval.

Gisel reported that Discraft had noticed that the quality of some other disc producers varied over time or as compared to the discs submitted for approval. Gisel expressed concern that WFDF is not in the position to make approval decisions and suggested to set up a WFDF policy which would be presented to future manufacturers, perhaps also with some limited testing of discs.

Rauch advised that he would work with Gisel to revise the disc policy proposal he made and present it at the next Board meeting.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athletes' Commission Report

Purcell reported about the reactions of players to expansion plans of the schedule and/or the number of competition days at future World Games. Athletes were not in favor of adding more games especially if within the same three day with the same roster limits.

Rauch replied that it has been the goal to see if Ultimate could get an additional day in the World Games competition or larger rosters. We are also trying to get disc golf back into the World Games programme.

2018 Development program

Rauch introduced Gabriele Sani, the WFDF Development Director. Sani gave an overview on the development program. All projects WFDF funded had gone ahead, among them in Nicaragua (Disc Golf course at Nicaragua University), Haiti (Ultimate), Croatia (establish disc sports in schools), Tunisia (initiation of Ultimate), Uganda (introduction of Ultimate in 30 schools). Haiti was working on the application to become a new WFDF member.

In some countries it was difficult and expensive to get the free discs through customs. But other than that, the projects were going well and reports showed they were quite successful.

The development committee was now working on the call for grants for 2018.

Bernardi added that the financial coordination between the three types of WFDF development (grants for projects, clinics and seminars offered by WFDF and education and training for Game Advisors) should be improved. He requested that the Development Commission coordinate with Gisel which funds WFDF spends on what type of development project.

He also reported that ARISF is asking for a 4-year development plan for the money WFDF receives from them. He urged the commission to work on this plan.

Bernardi reported that the German NOC is cooperating with the German society for international development to establish Flying Disc programs in Jordan and the Middle East. WFDF has been asked if it can spend money on this program and Bernardi needs to reply within the coming week. Rauch suggested that Bernardi coordinate this directly with Malone and Sani from the Development Committee.

Disc Sport Reports

No reports from Disc Golf, Guts, Freestyle, or Beach Ultimate

Overall

Burvall reported that the call for bids for the 2019 World Overall Championships was being finalized. US Open and Virginia State championships had asked to get WFDF sanctioning, possibly only for some disciplines.

Rauch confirmed that WFDF has done that a few times in the past, e.g. for DDC. It should not interfere with our official Overall event. He asked Burvall to go back to the organizers and find out exactly what they were thinking of.

Rauch asked for the current state of the skills proficiency certification. Burvall replied it was being worked on by Rob McLeod and should be finished soon. He would contact McLeod for an update.

Championship Events and others

2017/2018 events - report

Woldt reported that that call for bids had been sent out for European Beach Ultimate Championships 2019 (EBUC) and the Asia Oceanic Beach Ultimate Championships 2019 (AOBUC). Japan has expressed strong interest and will be the only bidder. As for the EBUC three expressions of interest had been received but since then not all 3 hadn't responded to emails. With a bid from Portugal the close ties of the TD to the for-profit BULA will be reviewed for conflicts of interest. Rauch replied that any potential Conflict of Interest should be identified but with a contract taking care of this on an "arm's length" basis he would not have any issues with this issue.

Woldt continued that WFDF World U24 in Perth was very successful. A lot of interest had been raised and expressed through Social Media and TOC did a good job.

She mentioned the idea that Masters teams/players might be able to donate discs at the WMUCC to get passed on to those who need them.

Woldt asked all WFDF officers who plan to attend any of the upcoming events should contact her by end of January.

She committed that she would spend more time on managing bids for events outside of Ultimate.

Gisel added that there were no disciplinary actions at WU24 in Perth. The final financial report should be in by the end of February.

Starting in 2019 WFDF would be using updated contract templates for WFDF events.

Finance

Treasurer's report

(none)

Other Business

Griesbaum suggested to host the bi-annual Face-to-Face Board meeting not late in the year but earlier in the year. Rauch suggested the board would discuss it at the next Board meeting.

Next Meeting

Proposed: February 17/18, 2018.

Closing: 16:20 CET

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary