

President's Report

By Juha Jalovaara

WFDF Congress
August 1, 2008
Vancouver, Canada

Preface

The purpose of this report is to give WFDF members a general overview of the state of the corporation and its activities in the preceding year leading up to this Congress. More detail on specific items will be presented in separate reports.

Board of Directors

The WFDF annual election was held electronically in December, 2007, with a total of 21 member organizations submitting votes. Seven new directors were elected to two year terms, one of them being Nob Rauch (United States) who was elected to serve a one year term as an At-Large Board member, serving out the board member term previously filled by Kate Bergeron who was elected as the Treasurer.

The composition of the current WFDF Board:

		Term ends
President	Juha Jalovaara	2008
Secretary	Melle Clark	2008
Treasurer	Kate Bergeron	2009
Team Events Chair	Ruediger Veitl	2008
Individual Events Chair	Harvey Brandt	2009
Board Members	Fumio Morooka	2008
	Jonathan Potts	2008
	Nob Rauch	2008
	Todd Demetriades	2009
	Stef Stevens	2009
	Rebecca Forth	2009
	Jesus Loreto	2009

Personnel

Anne-Marie Carey had served as WFDF Executive Director on a part time basis of approximately 85 hours a month since December 2006. Anne-Marie proved capable of producing very good output, but at the same time she had trouble putting in the agreed number of hours and maintaining the deadlines agreed upon within the Executive Committee. This issue surfaced already in the second half of 2007 and was discussed with additional performance review measures put into place in agreement with her. While there was a marked improvement in performance in the following months, her response times started deteriorating again in March 2008. At the end of May the Executive Committee decided to terminate her contract and start searching for a new Executive Director.

Kevin "Skippy" Givens had been one of the other four short listed candidates in the original search of the ad-hoc Executive Director Selection Committee in September 2006. WFDF contacted Skippy and we were very quickly able to reach agreement on contracting him as the new WFDF Executive Director starting from June 22, 2008.

The duties of the Executive Director consist of the following activities:

1. WFDF administrative support

- membership application processing
- membership dues invoicing and processing
- membership census
- outreach programs
- Congress arrangements
- WFDF election arrangements

2. Communication

- Day-to-day communication with member organizations
- maintaining WFDF contact lists, handling e-mail and other correspondence
- communicating with GAISF, IWGA, WADA and other external organizations as directed by the Executive Committee
- website oversight and preparation of newsletters to WFDF members
- PR and media activities
- Read all correspondence on WFDFMemberLink mailing list

3. Event management

- WFDF event coordination activities with WFDF Committee Chairs and tournament directors
- event bid processing and evaluation
- event organization support and event marketing
- event procedures development

4. Organization

- ExCom and Board administrative support (meeting briefing books and minutes, etc)
- WFDF archives and records management
- Coordination of WFDF's involvement with official agencies
- Managing the calendar and tickler systems for the volunteer staff and officers
- Read all correspondence on wfd-executive mailing list

In addition to the Executive Director, WFDF has maintained a consulting contract with Dan "Stork" Roddick. Stork's activities have consisted of:

- maintaining WFDF World records and advising on record attempts
- maintaining the list of approved discs
- maintaining WFDF history
- supporting the Individual Events Committee
- specific strategic work for the Board

In 2007 Stork invoiced WFDF for a total of 95 hours of work, in the first two quarters of 2008 invoiced consulting totaled 15.25 hours.

Finances

At the end of the fiscal year 2007 the financial position of WFDF was satisfactory. Our net operating cash flow for 2007 was a deficit of USD 5,148.88 compared to a budgeted deficit of USD 16,456.90. The difference was made up of lower than expected administrative expenses (communication and office supply costs) and lower than expected World Games expenses (travel and anti-doping).

At the end of the fiscal year 2007 WFDF had total cash assets of USD 75,256.23 and no liabilities. Outstanding membership dues payments through the year 2007 are a total of USD 1,805 (this is the status on June 30th, 2008). USD 1100 of this sum consists of membership dues owed by the Freestyle Players Association.

More detail on the fiscal year 2007 is given in separate financial reports.

An unaudited intermediate financial report for the first two quarters of 2008 is included in the Congress materials. The most notable item is the additional revenue received from WUCC 2006 consisting of the balance of sanctioning fees (USD 3340) and profit sharing clause in the sanctioning contract (USD 23,721.55). The profit sharing revenue could only be determined after the financial statements of the WUCC 2006 organizing private limited company had been audited and final tax rulings had been made. In spite of the considerable delay with the financial results tournament director Brian Vanallen has been very cooperative in producing post-event reporting. The unbudgeted revenue from the profit clause will improve the financial results for WFDF in 2008 considerably compared to the original budget.

Board Resolutions

The most notable resolutions made by the WFDF Board in 2007 were:

- Ratification of the new WFDF Rules of Ultimate
- Approving a new sub-committee structure for the Ultimate Committee
- Awarding of the WFDF Pan-American Ultimate Club Championships 2007 to Mexico
- Awarding of the WFDF Asia-Oceanic Ultimate Championships 2007 to Chinese Taipei Flying Disc Association
- Reaffirming the current schedule of WFDF Ultimate events through 2010
- Changing some of the bid deadlines of upcoming WFDF events
- Tasking the Ultimate Rules sub-committee to create a suitable set of hand signals for use in World Games ultimate play
- Confirming WFDF's participation in World Games 2009
- Naming WUGC2008 as WFDF qualifying event for World Games 2009
- Naming Harvey Brandt Interim Director and Chair of Individual Events Committee to replace Paul Francz until December 31, 2007
- Establishing Membership requirements for WFDF Team Events
- Approving National team player eligibility rules for WFDF Ultimate Events as proposed by the Ultimate Committee
- Approving the Board of Directors Election Policy and Procedure (v. 4.0)

And in 2008 to date:

- Sanctioning Big D in the Desert as the 2008 WFDF World Distance Championships
- Sanctioning the US Open Flying Disc Championships 2008 as the 2008 WFDF Self Caught Flight and Discathon World Championships
- Sanctioning the Arizona State Championships as the 2008 DDC World Championships
- Sanctioning of WFDF Freestyle Championship 2008 and WFDF Accuracy Championship 2008 in conjunction with the World Disc Games
- Sanctioning of the WFDF World Overall Championships 2009 in Jacksonville, Florida
- Terminating the WFDF membership of the Slovak Association of Frisbee at their own request and due to their inability to pay their membership dues
- Provisionally accepting Asociación Dominicana de Jugadores de Ultimate as provisional WFDF member
- Provisionally accepting Asociación de Jugadores de Ultimate en Colombia – AJUC as regular WFDF member
- Establishing host country qualification criteria for World Games 2009
- Approving World Games qualification criteria for 2009 as proposed by the Ultimate Committee
- Contracting Kevin Givens for the position of WFDF Executive Director
- Approving WFDF Ultimate Rules Committee charter

- Ratification of the 2008 WFDF Rules of Ultimate

Board and Executive Committee Activity

During 2007 the WFDF Board held three (3) teleconference meetings and kept in touch between the meetings through the use of a Yahoo discussion group and the newly established WFDF Forum, a web discussion board that can be used by all WFDF committees as well. The minutes of Board meetings are available upon request to members in good standing. The Board has met twice (2 times) in 2008 so far.

During 2007 the WFDF Executive Committee, consisting of President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Executive Director met by teleconference a total of seven (7) times. The Executive Committee has met six (6) times in 2008 so far.

Rewriting of WFDF Bylaws

A WFDF Bylaws Task Force consisting of board member Nob Rauch as chair and Sandie Hammerly, Simon Hill, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Murphy, and Juha Jalovaara as members was formed in March 2008 to complete the bylaws rewrite project which had been ongoing for several years.

An initial draft of the proposed new bylaws was circulated to the Board on May 18th for comments and another revised draft on June 30th. This revised draft was uploaded to the WFDF web site on July 10th and members were asked to give feedback.

The Bylaws Task Force is now presenting this revised draft (version 5.4 with just two minor grammatical corrections) for approval by WFDF Congress.

The main issues this Bylaws revision project attempted to address were:

1. Ambiguity of WFDF Member definition and conflicts between national members and discipline specific members in a country;
2. Lack of clarity with regard to disc discipline definition and sanctioned events;
3. Lack of relationship between number of players represented by Member organizations, voting power, and dues;
4. Perceived need to tie voting on play related issues for a specific discipline to players representing that discipline;
5. Further provisions for electronic communication and voting and for voting outside of Congress; and
6. Various other administrative clean-up issues.

External Relations

WFDF continues as a member in good standing in GAISF (General Assembly of International Sports Federations) and IWGA (International World Games Association). WFDF Board member Fumio Morooka attended the SportAccord Congress in Athens in June, 2008 and represented WFDF there. SportAccord is the annual event that hosts the annual general meetings of GAISF, IWGA and the International Olympic Committee. In addition to the meetings, the event hosts an exhibition that attracts hosts and bidders of major future sporting events such as the Olympic Games and representatives of media who work with sports coverage.

Juha Jalovaara took part in the WADA 2008 IFs & NADOs Anti-Doping Symposium in Lausanne, Switzerland on April 1-2, 2008 as WFDF representative. The focus of the meeting was the new WADA code coming into effect on January 1, 2009 and about 50-60 IFs were represented at the symposium. I

had the opportunity to conduct a very useful one-on-one discussion with Jean-Pierre Moser, WADA Director, European Office and Relations with International Federations (IFs).

WFDF Events Program

In 2007 WFDF sanctioned the following events:

World Overall Championships 2007, Ithaca, NY, USA, July 9th-14th.

Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championships 2007, Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei, December 7th-9th.

In 2008 WFDF has sanctioned or is sanctioning the following events:

Big D in the Desert as the 2008 WFDF World Distance Championships

US Open Flying Disc Championships 2008 as the 2008 WFDF Self Caught Flight and Discathon World Championships

WFDF Freestyle Championship 2008 and WFDF Accuracy Championship 2008 in conjunction with the World Disc Games

WFDF World Ultimate and Guts Championships 2008, Vancouver, Canada, August 2nd-8th.

Arizona State Championships as the WFDF DDC World Championships 2008.

More information on our Events program, including bidding and upcoming events is available on our web site www.wfdf.org and in the Team Events Committee report.