

# WFDF Ultimate Committee 2007-2008

by Rü Veitl

## Main Tasks

- Going Global – Rules, Spirit... (UPA; BULA; WFDF)
- Improving Services and Events
- Becoming more professional and structured

Following you will find an overview of the tasks and topics the WFDF Ultimate Committee 2007-2008 has been or is dealing with.

In January 2007 I was informed that I was elected to serve as Ultimate Chairperson for this period of 2 years. With a lot of motivation and devotion and many ideas in my head I took on the task entrusted to me.

In my opinion many more things can and need to be done to increase the service provided and the value of WFDF for their members. As WFDF consists almost entirely of volunteers dedicating their spare time and their money I decided that in order to move a lot the support of more volunteers was needed.

A request was sent to all our member nations for volunteers – willing and motivated to help. A new structure of the Ultimate Committee was presented and approved for by the Board. The new structure sees 5 subcommittees (see Appendix I)

A group of about 25 volunteers could be found and each subcommittee was assigned a chairperson in order to spread the load.

Please find below a summary of the tasks for each subcommittee.

## Rules Committee (Jonathan Potts, Australia)

### Completed

New 2007 WFDF Ultimate Rules

Collection of points to improve, discussion and creation

Translation of 2007 rules into several languages

New 2008 WFDF Ultimate Rules

Collection of points to improve, discussion and creation

Change Tracking Documents

Scenario Collection to help improve understanding of rules

Championship Event Rules

Create a set of Championship Game and Event Rules to set standards for Worlds and similar events (using former Appendix as Basis)

Define tasks and duties of Game officials at Worlds events

## Beach Ultimate Rules

Cooperation with BULA

BULA agreed to adopt standard WFDF Ultimate Rules and created a Document (Addendum) which shows the few additions/changes to convert the Rules to Beach Ultimate

New Addendums for 4-on4 and 5-on5 Beach Ultimate ratified by WFDF

## Work in Progress

Creation of a scenario collection for better understanding of the rules.

Translation of 2008 rules and other documents into several languages (Skippy)

Working with UPA representatives to define goal to converge rule sets (Flo, Mark)

## Planned Tasks

Creation of a 2008 rules quiz

Creation of WFDF Indoor Ultimate Rules

Gather input from different regions/communities

Create a set of indoor rules, publish and translate

## Events Committee (Rü Veitl, Germany)

### Completed

World Games 2009

Discussion of WG Committee's request for Referees, Linesmen, etc.

Creation of Ranking System/Qualifying Method for World Games

Creation of Eligibility Rules for World Ultimate Championships

Ultimate World Cup scoring System

PAUCC 2008 (Pan American Ultimate Club Championship)

Check and assign Bid to Mexico

(Note: Event had to be cancelled due to lack of participating teams)

AOUC 2008 (Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championship)

Check and assign Bid to Taiwan

Support TD - formats, schedules and seeding (Pottsy)

WUGC 2008 in Vancouver

Support TD - formats, schedules and seeding

WUCC 2010

Check and discuss Bids submitted

Work out a proposal as suggestion for WFDF Board

Ultimate World Cup scoring System

## Work in Progress

PAUC 2008 (Pan American Ultimate Club Championship)

Mexico would be interested in hosting the event in 2009. A presentation is currently being worked on.

Decision process if event will be national teams or club teams.

AOUC 2008 (Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championship)

Currently looking for Hosts

Decision process if event will be national teams or club teams.

## WJUC 2010

Both European Bidders for WUCC are interested in hosting WJUC. As soon as decision on WUCC is made, liaise with Bidders.

## Creation of Eligibility Rules for World Ultimate Club Championships

Clarify goal of rules, gather input from different regions/communities, gather experience from Perth  
Compare with EUCS, UPA  
Create document, publish, translate

## Create new events schedule 2010-2020

Working out new structure/cycle for Worlds events taking into account  
Beach Ultimate  
Regional events (EUC, PAUC, AOUC)  
World Games

## Approved Seeding System

Approved Schedule Database for Worlds Events

Collecting feedback regarding new National Team Eligibility Rules

## Planned Tasks

Monitoring of increasing Team and Playerfees

## SotG Committee (Patrick van der Valk, Portugal)

### Completed

Had a yearlong, ongoing, discussion with Chris Schneider (CH), Christian Jennewein (FR), Dan Engstrom (SE), David Raflø (US), Kolja Sulimma (DE), Momme Butenschön (DE), Natalie Visser (CO), Patrick van der Valk (NL), Paul Bernier (IT), and Rue Veitl (DE).

Established a SOTG scoring system that:

As objectively as possible determines the winner of the SOTG award  
Educates (new) players what good SOTG is

Got full approval of [the SOTG system](#) by the SOTG Committee, the WFDF Board, and BULA

Promoted the SOTG scoring system through posts on blogs and mailing lists, and offering Tournament Directors of Beach Ultimate tournaments free SOTG awards ([sweatband](#) offer from Lookfly in the UK) in return for using the system and sending feedback.

### Work in Progress

Listening to the feedback

### Planned Tasks

Try to get the UPA involved in the creation for the 2009 version (Start: September 2008)

Restart discussions with current group (and possible 2 UPA reps) on improvement for 2009 version (Start: October 2008)

Discuss ways to retain/improve the SOTG while Ultimate is growing (Start: February 2009)

# Development Committee (Melle Clark, USA)

## Completed:

WFDF Development Committee Mission Statement

(see Appendix 2)

## Correspondence

**Pakistan:** A representative, Shakeel Goga, of the self-named PFDF is eager to become a WFDF member, but has shown no efforts to participate in international competition; to make contact with regional players; or to contact Alia Ayub, a Pakistani-American resident of GB, who travels to Pakistan annually and has offered support, guidance, assistance in coordinating meetings between experienced players and this PID. A visa scam is suspected.

**Morocco:** One very eager player, Youness Benbrahim, has been very eager for support from WFDF or any orgs. to help develop a program. He has been unable to obtain a visa to travel to Europe or the US to further his study of the game, but has been an eager host to any and all disc players traveling through Morocco; we have a number of testimonials from British, American and European players who have met Youness and report that he organized pick-up games with local players for while they were visiting. He has given us a list of equipment needs he says would be helpful in developing the sport.

**India:** There is an eager player and representative, Sanal Nair, of a local disc sport group who is organizing an intercollegiate competition. He has been unable to communicate with the IFDF. Juha has had more communication with Sanal than I. I passed along to them Daniel Bailey's Disco-Latino program, an outline of a disc sport training program, which I am also attaching to this email. It is a comprehensive program useful when interpreted and implemented by experienced disc players. Perhaps you will print out several copies of this program to hand out at Congress.

**Uganda:** This country has a developing program with some motivated players with a good deal of international experience, including Alex Queenie They have been able to hold at least one and sometimes several tournaments annually. As have a number of countries, they have asked for financial assistance, which WFDF is not able to give.

**Israel:** The program in this country is spearheaded by Dori an entrepreneur and disc importer/vendor. He reports being unable to galvanize the base to form an organization of active participants to grow beyond the occasional tournament. They'd aspired to become WFDF members, but one organization of a single motivated individual, as with Morocco, is not sufficient for a sustainable organization.

**Belize:** A Peace Corps volunteer, Kyle Roberts has asked for WFDF support, financial and other. Other countries have too, occasionally. In all cases we explain that we have no funds, but would like to know for future reference what their needs would be. We have taken a list of equipment they would like donated, if possible.

## New WFDF Member

Colombia submitted a completed application to become a WFDF Regular Member. A positive recommendation for their application was voted on by the WFDF Board. Their application will necessitate final approval by the WFDF Membership, at Congress.

## Work in Progress/ Planned Tasks

Defining tasks

How can we develop the sport and make it grow – while still keeping the spirit we currently have.....

The focus should be on young people (schools/universities)

Training coaches.....

Colombia/Venezuela Problem

How can we help new growing ultimate societies to set up democratic structures, accept WFDF rules ....

Help Member Associations follow the examples of Japan and Australia in developing the sport.

## Web Committee (Christian Jennewein, France)

(on hold due to lack of budget/resources)

### Work in Progress

As interest and participation in this subcommittee was very limited and resources on WFDF side too limited, Christian started realizing the idea on a private site. The result is [ffindr.com](http://ffindr.com) which is constantly growing and might at some point serve as the intended service WFDF should provide. (Please have a look)

### Planned Tasks

Supply helpful information and support to players, TDs, Member Associations

- One portal for all tournaments worldwide (incl. categories and search functions)

- Content Management platform to publish/run a tournament (incl. Hat tournament functions)

- Team / Organization Contacts database ([ffindr.com](http://ffindr.com) - style )

- Voting platform

- World Rostering System

- Useful support documents

  - "How to run a tournament"

  - Format templates

  - etc.

## Other

### Recommendations to the Board

Set up a system of reporting to the membership (WFDF Executive Director)

Setup of WFDF discussion forum – as Yahoo groups not a good platform for discussions. (Juha)

Set up a more democratic and more productive structure for a representative Ultimate Committee

## Successes

A "real" international ultimate committee created

External Relations strengthened

- BULA, UPA, EUF/EFDF Combined Spirit taskforce

Many quality documents (rules, regulations, systems, workflows defined and created as "legacy" for future committees)

## Drawbacks

Workload of Ultimate Chair is way beyond the resources of one volunteer

Lack of Workforce, Lack of Budget, Lack of Paid staff

Structure/Teamwork of WFDF Board ↔ Ultimate Committee

Overall dedication, input and availability of board members and some Ultimate committee members

Bylaws unsuitable for federation representing the sport of Ultimate

Missing "legacy": from all the work done by Ultimate Committees in the past there was nothing left which was handed down to the new Chairperson. Likewise WFDF does not have a database for documents and support lists to help new members.

Ultimate chairperson supposed to also be team events chairperson.

## Conclusion

The past 18 months have been a tremendous amount of work and though sometimes a bit frustrating the job was often very rewarding. We need to keep in mind that with a group of volunteers it is hard to get a lot of work done quickly. All of us have their professional and private lives before we can spend our time on WFDF.

I want to thank all the volunteers on the Ultimate committees who have spent their time to help accomplish all the tasks we have finished and have still not gotten tired of me constantly adding more items to our task list.

I am especially happy that we were able to form a large group from very many different countries and Ultimate communities and were thus able to incorporate views from many different angles. Though our discussions often took a lot longer than with fewer opinions involved, I am convinced that the work produced by our Ultimate committee is of high quality.

I want to say very special thanks to the following people who dedicated vast amounts of their free time for our cause:

Flo Pfender, Jonathan Potts, Patrick van der Valk, Melissa Clark, Juha Jalovaara, Simon Hill, Bill Rodrigues and Melissa Zloch and all the others who helped improve and develop Ultimate world wide.

## APPENDIX I:

# 2007 Structure of the WFDF Ultimate Committee

### **Members and structure:**

The Ultimate committee is directed by the Ultimate chairperson.

The committee is split up into several subcommittees. (currently 5)

The Ultimate chairperson should appoint a subcommittee chairperson for each subcommittee. (May be him/herself).

The Ultimate chairperson and the subcommittee chairperson may in agreement invite members to the committees.

Every Member of the Ultimate committee or WFDF board may be added to a discussion group permanently or for a specific topic.

### **Workflow:**

The Ultimate chairperson and the subcommittee chairperson define a list of tasks and timelines.

WFDF-Board will address the ultimate chair with tasks to be handled.

The chairpersons will review the tasks and assign them to the respective sub-committee.

Information on tasks and results of each subcommittee will be supplied to all the members of the Ultimate committee and if necessary to the board.

All discussion will be led exclusively on sub-committee-level.

Within a sub committee a decision / compromise should be reached.

If this is not possible, the task will be redefined by the chairpersons.

All decisions by the sub committees will be communicated to the Ultimate committee.

With minor matters, the Ultimate chairperson will inform WFDF board and/or members.

Some decisions require approval by the board, such as:

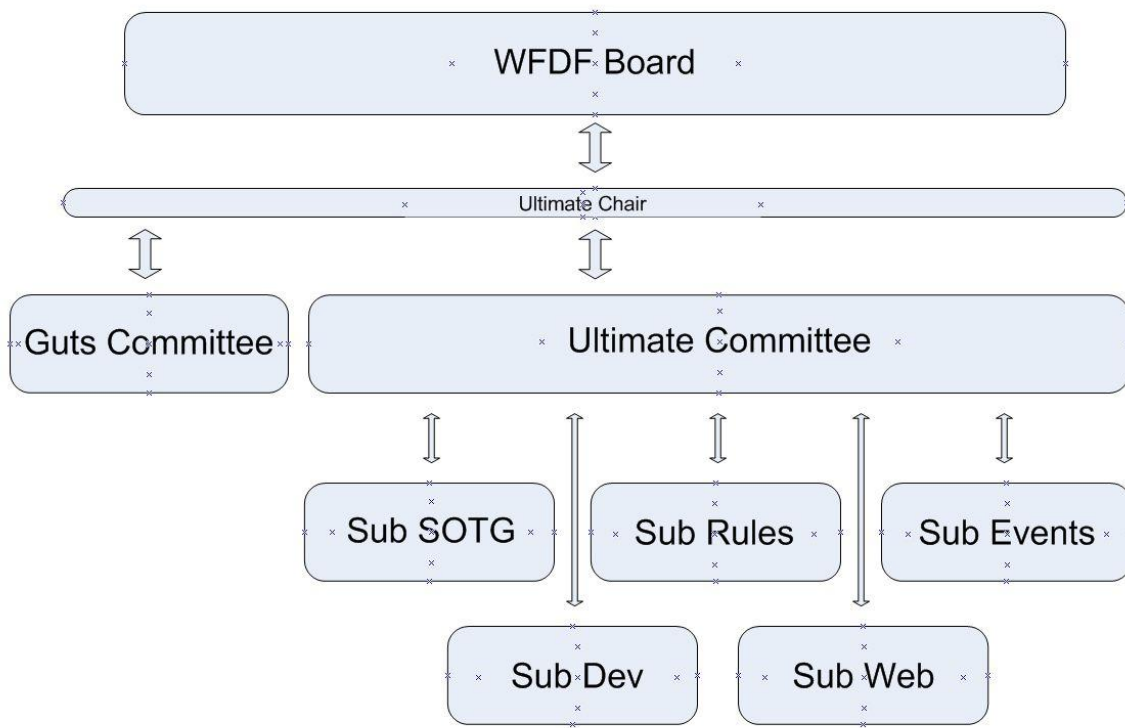
- WFDF Event Schedule
- Sanctioning of events
- Approval of Rules of Play
- Policy issues that can be considered strategic in nature (eg IWGA relations, goals of our events, etc.)
- Spending decisions
- Tasks assigned to the Ultimate Committee by WFDF board

After approval by the Board, the WFDF members will be informed of important news/changes.

After rejection by the board the task will be redefined and the process will be restarted.

For some urgent matters the Ultimate committee may suggest to open a poll for all WFDF members or to address congress.

# Overview:





## APPENDIX 2:

# WFDF Development Committee Mission Statement

Main Objective: To develop initiatives to foster sustainable growth of disc sports internationally.

### Focus Areas:

1. Non-financial: Coordinating international efforts that do not require financial backing.
2. Financial:
  - a. Identifying effective uses of funding, should it become available.
  - b. Securing sources of funding.

### Methodology:

1. Surveying Programs in Development (PiD's) regarding:
  - a. the state of their disc program, including number of players and organizers, and rate of participation of the local population as applicable.
  - b. perceived obstacles to their development;
  - c. how they suggest WFDF may be able to help.
2. Surveying established programs to learn:
  - a. what methods and techniques have contributed to their success;
  - b. what methods were tried that did not produce the hoped-for results.
3. Developing initiatives to coordinate international efforts to aid PiD's through:
  - a. Information and Support (e.g. how to start a school program; where to find game rules; how to develop a league; how to hold elections; how to get sponsorship; how to develop saleable merchandise to fund the program; how to start a weekly pick-up game; etc.);
  - b. Equipment (e.g. recycling/donation program of sending discs, cones, DVD's, cleats; discovering or creating sources of reduced-price equipment; investigating reduced-cost international shipping methods);
  - c. Instruction (e.g. alerting the Ultimate community of PiD's that invite experienced players to hold a clinic; establish a pool of experienced and enthusiastic trainers who are willing to spend a summer or a year to teach Ultimate in a disc community abroad [and for example work in the meanwhile as an English teacher]);
  - d. Financial aid (may include funding any of the above initiatives);
  - e. Identifying and utilizing international sports development programs that could help in providing resources for PiDs (e.g. Sporting Goods to Go);
  - f. Identifying cooperation opportunities with other sports or organizations;
  - g. Integrating teaching life skills into disc-based development programs (e.g. teaching, for example, self confidence, conflict management, healthy lifestyles, health and nutrition, etc.);
  - h. Creating a roadmap for the organizational development of a national flying disc governing body. (e.g. What are the necessary components of a program components: sufficient number of enthusiasts and clubs, bylaws, officers, financial organization, website or other communication medium, etc.? What are the stages a PiD is likely to pass through? What to do first? Listing the best practices that have worked for other flying disc organizations.)
4. Cultivate international support of PiDs:
  - a. Invite participation of the international disc community in these initiatives via the WFDF newsletter, newsgroups and emails;
  - b. Involve the disc communities in the region and establish support exchanges (e.g. initialize a series of international HAT tournaments in the new disc