

Sunday, December 16, 2012

Conference Call at Sunday December 16, 2012; UK, POR- 15:00; GER- 16:00; RSA - 17:00; USA NY, VA, MI - 10:00; USA CO, AZ - 08:00; USA CA, CAN BC - 07:00; Japan - 00:00 (December 17th); Taiwan - 23:00.

Board members present:

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Sandie Hammerly, Patrick van der Valk, Kate Bergeron, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Jack Cooksey, Ryan Scott.

Also attending: Ryan Purcell (Athletes' Committee, non-voting), Volker Bernardi, Executive Director, non-voting.

Board members absent or excused:

Simon Hill, Brian Gisel.

Call to order

Report by the President

President Rauch welcomed all Board members and thanked them for joining the conference call. The meeting would focus on looking forward to the projects for 2013 with one hour work being dedicated to the strategic plan as the discussion on the strategic paper is still continuing.

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting in New York of November 3/4, 2012, are still in a preliminary draft. The minutes will be finished shortly and circulated by to the Board for electronic vote.

Congress decisions between meetings

Proposal 2012.4 – approval of FPA (Freestyle) as disc game organisational member was approved by Congress

Proposal 2012.5 – approval of Bylaws change was approved by Congress, whereby Article IV, Section 1 will read as follows: " Management of the Corporation. WFDF shall be managed by the Board of Directors. Directors shall be selected without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex or sexual orientation. The Board shall consist of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, the current chairs of each Disc Sport Committee, along with at least three at large directors, as elected by the Congress. The Congress may also elect one (1) deputy director, who shall serve as a full voting member of the Board in the event that any director resigns or is removed prior to the end of his/her stated term."

Ultimate Events

WUCC 2014

Volker Bernardi reported that the event contract has been signed with Ultimateevents s.r.l. (Max Vitali) and that they have submitted an updated budget after the final questions on Merchandising and Sponsorships had been dealt with. The Board members had received a copy of the contract in early December. There are still some details to be finalized by the hosts as they had not secured the written contracts on the venue rental and transportation and meal plans so far. Deadline for submitting the contracts is 31 March 2013.

Patrick van der Valk requested information on whether there was any money being made at WUCC with broadcast rights or video on demand as for ECBU they will have to pay for the production of the broadcast and livestream. Bernardi mentioned that WFDF does not expect to get any revenue from broadcasting or livestream but that this needs to be negotiated with the hosts if there is interest from broadcasters. Rauch added that in the budget there is no expectation for any revenue from broadcast.

Van der Valk inquired as to WFDF's current relationship with Discraft and sponsorship of non- US events. Bernardi confirmed that WFDF does not have a formal agreement with Discraft or any other disc manufacturer regarding pricing for non-US events. .

Purcell proposed that while planning logistics for future tournaments a member of the Athletes Commission should be on the group which does the planning.

WU23

Bernardi reported that some details are currently being negotiated including the use of official logos on jerseys of teams competing at the events. The official merchandising company was selected and the contract signed on November 26. He has advised TOC that the Congress will be held in Toronto. Bernardi currently is checking the possibilities to conduct the in-competition anti-doping testing during WU23 and the respective costs in Canada The TOC headed by Jason Robinson is quite experienced and communication has been very strong.

PAUCC2013

The efforts to find a host for PAUCC 2013 are ongoing and three new countries have expressed interest: Brazil, Dominican Republic, and Colombia. The latter would host the event in early July 2013 in Medellin, but it was felt that the TOC and the TD should fully concentrate on the World Games preparations. Some days prior to the meeting a contact from Bolivia came up and WFDF had discussed the possibility with Stef Stevens, a former WFDF Board member, to hold PAUCC in Bolivia as this might help to establish a Federation, but that is unlikely to materialize. So far there is no application on paper and Bernardi will follow-up with Brazil and the Dominican Republic to find out about their intentions to bid.

AOUCC2013

WFDF had received three bids for AOUCC, from Singapore, the Philippines and Australia, although the bid from Australia never included a full budget. The Ultimate Committee has recommended to the Board to accept the bid from Singapore as endorsed by the UPAS Board (correspondence dated 15 December 2012) and supported by the Asian Flying Disc Association., The President put the application from Singapore

to a vote seconded by Patrick van der Valk.

The Board unanimously accepted the bid from UPA (Singapore) to host AOUC 2013 in Singapore.

The World Games 2013

WFDF has received a report from TD Mauricio Moore on the Technical Delegates' meeting in November 2012. Mauricio Moore had in particular reported that there are serious concerns on the hotels and accommodation proposed by CLOC. Moore had rejected these hotels as being of unacceptable quality and will follow-up with CLOC on this issue. Bernardi had confirmed with IWGA that teams travelling from other continents to Cali would be allocated a jet-lag day (GBR, AUS, JPN) while the teams from the Pan American continent would not get such day (USA, CAN, COL). Canada has informed Bernardi that still they would arrive on 26 July 2013 and pay for the additional night in order to attend the Opening Ceremony. Morooka confirmed that Japan wants to do sotoo, but Bernardi informed him that the team from Japan will get the jet-lag day.

ECBU 2013

Patrick van der Valk reported on the preparation of ECBU in Spain. In general, things are going well. They are still looking for a main sponsor for online events and have contacts with Skyd Magazine and NexGen. There might be some problems for NexGen to attend as they have a conflict with the dates. A team from The Czech Republic could do the streaming but not in HD. They have hired someone to get sponsors with a goal of EUR 25,000 (EUR 15,000 might be sufficient but they aim to raise a larger amount).

The interest of players is good. Turkey wants to become a provisional WFDF member to be able to attend, as there is currently no National Federation. The Women's Masters division is still weak with only three teams from Germany, France and United Kingdom, and potentially Netherlands and Finland. They have received bids for the official merchandising from Five Ultimate and Gaia.

TOC expects 60 teams to participate depending on the Grand Masters and Women's Masters divisions. The other divisions are going well.

WFDF Governance

IOC recognition procedure / SportAccord IF Forum report

Bernardi referred to his written report and gave explanations of the changes in the recognition procedure announced by the IOC. The IOC has decided not to make decisions on IFs applying for IOC recognition during their December meeting. The next decisions will be made during the Executive Board meeting in Saint Petersburg, Russia during the SportAccord convention on 20 May 2013. The due diligence is now conducted by SportAccord. The IOC will inform the IFs being considered on this agenda some weeks before the meeting.

Bernardi reported on the other meetings during the IF Forum from 12 to 14 November 2012 in Lausanne with WADA, IWGA and SportAccord. To have Guts included in the

SportAccord World Combat Games, WFDF will have to follow the application procedure set out by SportAccord. Freestyle could be interesting for the program of the SportAccord World Artistic Games.

Strategic plan discussions

President Rauch reported that he has received comments and input sent by several Board members who had taken over responsibility for certain areas as a follow-up to the discussions from the New York Board meeting. The latest draft of the strategic plan circulated for this Board meeting includes an updated Mission statement, pillars and key functions of the organisation and strategic goals.

Rauch asked whether the Board should finalise the strategic plan within the next 4-6 weeks or wait for the decision on IOC recognition in May as this decision could have a major impact on the priorities and resources available to WFDF and its Members. IOC recognition would potentially offer new sources of support for members and thus the recognition of the members on a national level would be a top priority within the next two years.

Van der Valk agreed that the strategic plan is a project requiring a lot of work and that the impact on the support for members would be huge. A four month delay would not be significant and we should not rush things here. Rauch commented that the work on the plan would not be finished until end of February anyway and in April we might receive updated information from the IOC. Hammerly expressed concerns that we are rushing the project and feels that several months more time is needed on the plan. Upon a question from Bernardi, Rauch confirmed that we will not plan to send any revision of our early 2012 version of the strategic plan to the IOC as part of the modified procedure. Rauch confirmed that extending the timeframe to at least mid of 2013 is a solution which is supported by all Board members.

Walking through the strategic plan Rauch asked for feedback on the modified strategic goals and the thoughts given on its implementation. In the first section Brian Gisel had commented on the excellent events with five main tactics: Marketing/Promotion to Member Organizations/Community, Review Bid Process, Centralize Key Recurring Event Activities, Event Organization Support, Hire Event Coordinator to oversee all Event Coordination issues.

Cooksey proposed to form subcommittees that could be in contact with others to tackle the different issues. Hammerly agreed as USAU used to have small project groups but mentioned that maybe we do not have the manpower for this. Key question always is how WFDF can pay for the things included to the strategic plan.

Cooksey suggested that we outline how WFDF can create additional revenues. Rauch explained that our two main sources of financing right now fall back on the players: membership dues and player event fees from the large Ultimate events. Merchandising around the events does not drive much money right now and we have no sponsorship funding. WFDF has not explored sponsorship opportunities to any material extent so far. Broadcast is likely to be an expense for the foreseeable future. The IOC recognition could be a great help for member associations to get more revenue and this might result in increased revenues for WFDF.

Van der Valk requested information on possibilities to work with disc manufacturers. Bergeron proposed that we target events for younger players for introducing new discs as juniors may be more open to alternate discs. Van der Valk was convinced that WFDF needs to consider ways to identify less expensive alternatives for development in lesser developed countries

Rauch mentioned that there were no responses to the request last meeting to brainstorm on revenue raising ideas. He proposed that board members, between now and early January, should submit his or her thoughts on a way to produce additional revenue, e.g. how do we get what type of a sponsor. Our aspirations could be a bit more limited within the constraints of limited resources. Answers to this request should be sent by 7 January.

Face to face Board meeting - review items

Van der Valk requested that the minutes should be circulated as a word file. Rauch confirmed that the minutes will be circulated in that format.

WFDF 2012 elections - procedure/candidates

Hammerly stated that as the elections were currently underway there is nothing additional to report at this time. There are a few abstentions so far and elections will be closed on 21 December.

Athletes' Commission

Purcell referred to his written report and reported on the last meeting of the Athletes' Commission. He underlined that the Commission felt that WFDF should be communicating directly with players and start the collection of contacts during the next events like WUCC.

On the question that had been raised by a Member association on the participation of younger players (<18 years old) in WU23, Rauch commented that this is a question of liability and the need for chaperones. There is a different set of responsibilities for organisers of events with athletes who are minors.

Anti-Doping program plan 2013

Bernardi informed the Board that on Monday WFDF is going to notify the nine athletes who will constitute the Registered Testing Pool (RTP) for 2013. It was quite an effort to get the nominations since it was not clear which athletes would be attending the World Games competitions in Cali. After the notification, the athletes will be set up in ADAMS.

Membership issues

Bernardi referenced his written report and reported about his travel to Korea and the discussions with the existing WFDF member KUPA and the other two organisations applying for WFDF membership (KFDF, KPDGA).

In Mexico the elections for a joint AJUM/AMEDIVO Board took place on 3 and 4 November. The new President of the Alliance will be Eliud Hernandez. Both groups have accepted this procedure even though AMEDIVO will have only two representatives on the new Board. It seems that a solution to get the two groups to work together has been achieved.

The Freestyle Players Association (FPA) has been accepted by the WFDF Congress as disc game organisational member. Their final version of the Bylaws will be approved by the FPA Congress soon. President Rauch has asked FPA to nominate the chair of the WFDF Freestyle Committee who would be appointed as a WFDF Board member until the 2013 elections. Nob proposed that FPA become a WFDF member commencing 1 January 2013.

Potential new members 2013

Rauch referenced the Board members to Bernardi's report in the briefing book.

Spirit of the Game – SOTG - Conduct Committee issue with Italy at WJUC

Rauch referenced the conduct committee report in the briefing book and gave explanations on the proposed sanctions like the loss of standings at WJUC, the public apology, press release and further educational measures.

Rauch proposed to the Board to endorse the recommendations made in the Conduct Committee report as follows, seconded by Fumio Morooka.

WFDF acknowledges the sanctions imposed by FIFD on its players. In addition to those sanctions, the WFDF Conduct Committee recommends the following package of sanctions that would be applied to all 16 Involved Parties, effective immediately:

- Personal loss of any standing in the 2012 WJUC; Exclusion from participation in WFDF-sanctioned events through year end 2013;
- Requirement of four hours of personal service at the first WFDF-sanctioned event in which they play in 2014, if any (i.e. World Juniors Ultimate Championship or World Ultimate Club Championship); such service would include tasks such as lining fields, delivering water and ice to fields, cleaning trash at the end of the day, or other tasks as assigned by the tournament organizing staff; FIFD has agreed to notify the TOC of Involved Parties subject to this service requirement and ensure the cooperation of the Involved Parties;
- Written apology from each of the Involved Parties to Five Ultimate in a form acceptable to WFDF, EUF; and
- FIFD. Such apology will be submitted after the two counseling sessions organized by FIFD for the involved players in the spring of 2013; and
- A press release outlining the decision.

The Board unanimously approved the conduct committee report and the proposals made by the committee.

Finance

Treasurer's Report

Hammerly reported that currently WFDF has net revenues for 2012 of US\$18,000 but

that a few bills are still missing She requested information whether we can expect any merchandise revenues from WUGC 2012. The budgeted loss for the year was US\$13,000.

Other disc sports – WOC 2013 – report by Jack Cooksey

Cooksey reported that Peter Lundmark from Sweden has sent a bid for WOC a couple of weeks ago and he has highlighted many minor questions to be clarified (what type of insurance policy do we need, does WFDF automatically insure the event by sanctioning it). Rauch commented that we require the liability insurance policy lists WFDF as co-insured. We could make respective arrangements for LOC. Hammerly added that the minimum we pay for this is US\$2,500 and that this might be overwhelming for Overall. But we don't know if we have to insure any other event in 2013 and 2014 so far. Cooksey added that official PDGA events are covered by PDGA insurance. Rauch stated that as soon as we get the answers to our questions we should complete the bid and circulate that for final approval. Cooksey added that he is trying to get the U.S. Open organised sooner.

Communications

Website - Phase 2: WFDF OFFICE

Bernardi referenced his report and added that Board Members will receive the access data on 17 December and that the launch of WFDF office 2012 is completed.

Other business

Michael Hu asked when the Congress 2013 will be held. As it was already decided to hold the Congress in Toronto on the occasion of WU23 it was added that the date should be the first week-end of the event to avoid clashes with the World Games in Cali.

Next Meeting

Proposed date: January 20 at 15:00 UTC. Bernardi will circulate a poll on potential dates.

Closing

The meeting closed at UTC 17:02.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary