

**Sunday September 24, 2017; UK, POR- 14:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 15:00; RSA- 15:00; QAT- 16:00; USA NY, VA, MI 09:00; USA CO, AZ 07:00; USA CA, CAN BC 06:00; Japan 22:00; Taiwan 21:00; Philippines 21:00**

**Board members present:**

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Kate Bergeron, Karen Cabrera, Charlie Mead, Tomas Burvall (by proxy to Mead until as noted below), Steve Taylor, Kevin Givens, Caroline Malone, Fumio Morooka, Ryan Purcell.

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

**Board members absent/excused:**

Brian Gisel, Michael Hu, Jamie Nuwer.

**Call to order (time: 15:06 CET)**

The quorum was reached with 11 votes of 8/14 needed.

**Report by the President**

Rauch welcomed all attendees and thanked all for their participation. He welcomed Jennifer Thomas as new WFDF Director of Communications and Global Media.

**Decisions between meetings**

(none)

**Minutes of last meeting - 16 July 2017**

A motion was made by Purcell to approve of the minutes of the 16 July 2017 meeting, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board**

**Regional events 2019 format**

With the Ultimate chair being absent the discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

**WFDF Sustainability strategy and partnerships**

Bernardi reported about the WFDF activities on the topic of sustainability which meet the demands resulting from the IOC Olympic Agenda 2020 put on International Federations. WFDF met with the IOC Sustainability Department staff on several occasions and co-operated with IFA (Fistball) on the publication of a case study to be printed by the IOC. Together with this partner, WFDF will present the study at the 2017 SportAccord IF Forum in Lausanne. He also reported about the partnership with SandSI, an international organisation which is co-ordinating sustainability projects of its members and where WFDF Advisory Board chair Vincent Gaillard is a Board member. WFDF Sustainability officer von Toggenburg has written a report for the Board and made proposals how WFDF could propel the topic of sustainability further.

Bernardi asked the Board to formally approve of partnerships with IFA and SandSI (here as a founding member) and the strategy paper presented by von Toggenburg.

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

### **WFDF Women in Sport Commission - report and additions**

Malone presented an update on the Women in Sport Commission and referenced the report submitted to the Board including the projected Press Release and survey as well as a funding proposal how to enable the Commission to support projects financially. Malone also proposed that the name of the Commission be changed to “Equality Commission” pending IOC acceptance and asked men to participate in the work of the Commission.

Rauch discussed whether WFDF could be aspiring to achieve a 50/50 ratio between men and women or even 60/40. He mentioned that as per the annual census WFDF has consistently had around 30% women participating in the sport for the last 10 years. Further, he also asked how WFDF could encourage more women to step up and contribute to the work as Volunteers. He added that what he has seen is that both within WFDF as well as most other sports organizations, those few women who are active in the administration of the sport get called on to participate in more and more activities as everyone aspires to have more gender equity.

Malone reported that the Commission has 14 very active women as members now and she would like to add the support of men. One target would be to set up more women teams. By arranging for clinics especially designed for women, WFDF could show that it is taking women and female participation seriously. This will make women more enthusiastic to work for the sport also as Volunteers. Malone suggested that the WFDF share of a newly created ‘Women’s Equality Line’ by VC Ultimate go directly to the Women’s Commission.

On the funding proposal, Rauch stated that there would be problems approving upfront a rededication of VC Sales commissions to Women’s Commission work as generally WFDF is relying on these for its general budget. There is a dedicated Development budget but dedicating 50% from that upfront without having the allocation be on a project by project basis could severely constrain resources. He suggested to have the Commission propose how the funding would be used before the money is given for projects. Bernardi reminded the Board that projects must be approved by the IOC Sports Department before their funds are dedicated for projects. Malone added that looking at the proposed VC funding VC will set up a new “Equality line” and the funds would come from this new source of revenue. On the proposal that the Women in Sport Commission be renamed to the Equality Commission, Bernardi stated that the IOC specifically requires a Women in Sport Commission, but that the Commission could certainly work on other areas of equality outside its specific mandate.

Rauch commented that WFDF has a variety of priorities within its development with a limited budget. Purcell thanked Malone and asked that WFDF should learn from the planned survey before starting projects.

Malone proposed that regarding to appointing men to the Women in Sports Commission there should be a Press Release looking for nominations. This release and the survey shall be the next steps moving forward.

Mead asked whether the other disc sports can be represented on the Commission. Malone commented that the current members are from the Ultimate community but would encourage members from the other disc sports. Bernardi suggested Mead and the other disc sport chairs to put forward nominations. Mead will make a nomination from Disc Golf.

Rauch proposed that the proposal made by Malone should be modified for the next meeting including the survey to be issued, the support generated by an additional line of clothing by VC with a dedication of these funds and putting together a budget proposal. WFDF also should see that TOCs should involve more women. On the crowdfunding campaign, this will be tabled as part of the proposal for the next meeting.

A motion was made by Purcell to approve of that approach, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **WFDF University Sport Commission - creation and appointments**

Bernardi reported about the latest development of Flying Disc University sport. He attended the FISU 2017 Universiade in Taipei (TPE) and met with FISU leaders and NUSF representatives together with Board member Hu. Next steps would be establishing of a WFDF University Sport Commission to administer this sector, the setting up of a first international University event 2018 in Medellin (COL) and the approach of the FISU Universiade hosts 2019 and 2021 on the potential inclusion of Flying Disc. The co-operation with National University Sport Federations (NUSFs) must be coordinated with WFDF member associations also looking at the continental level (EFDF-EUSA).

Bernardi presented the proposal to establish the respective WFDF Commission, nominating Julien Buhajezuk as chair with a list of members proposed.

A motion was made by Givens to approve of the Commission composition and set-up, seconded by Purcell. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board will vote on any change in the Commission composition.

Purcell suggested that WFDF would need to appoint members from the top countries to the Commission, too.

(Thomas Burvall joined now)

### **WFDF Disc Golf Committee - addition**

Mead proposed a communication specialist to be added to the Disc Golf Committee.

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

### **WFDF SOTG Sub-Committee addition**

The SOTG Sub-Committee chair has proposed to add Martin Gottschalk to the SOTG Sub-Committee.

A motion was made by Givens to approve of the addition of Martin Gottschalk to the Sub-Committee, seconded by Purcell. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Review of Palestine membership proposal**

The Board discussed detailed backgrounds of the membership application received from Ultimate Palestine which were not known when the membership application was presented before.

It was agreed to reach out to the applicant and local group for further information and confirmation of their approach with respect to WFDF non-discrimination policies.

### **Islamic Republic of Iran membership proposal**

The approval of the membership application was tabled as to get the final documents needed to complete their membership application and to discuss the status of Flying Disc within the applicant federation.

### **SOTG partnership with E.R.I.C. and SOTG day proposal**

Rauch introduced the proposal to sign an agreement with E.R.I.C. on the International SOTG Day. The proposal is to designate E.R.I.C. as spirit sponsor for two years and for WFDF to support the iSOTG Day. In return, in two years WFDF would get the rights to iSOTG day which is currently owned by E.R.I.C. After two years, WFDF would establish a more formal RFP for its official SOTG Sponsor.

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

### **Commercial and Broadcast plans for 2017-2018**

Rockwood referenced his report and updated a proposal for USAU offering to approach ESPN for a contract to televise three finals at WUCC, and indicated they require one to use their production company with a cost of \$40,000/day. WFDF would get advertising time to sell. It should be a revenue positive event. ESPN has had success before with selling advertising time for its Ultimate broadcasts. Rockwood would like to engage with Fulcrum media and get some tertiary coverage from fields outside of the stadium. He confirmed that WFDF has a \$100,000 of TOC's budget for broadcasting available.

Altitude Eyewear seems interested to act as WFDF Sponsor and event Sponsor

Bergeron asked whether by going with ESPN WFDF would be tied in their streaming or would be able to use some else outside of USA. Rockwood commented that an ESPN contract would not include the rights to outside of North America. Fulcrum could take the signal cleaned and stream it worldwide. But there is substantial viewership outside of USA and WFDF must make sure that this gets covered. Rockwood suggested that for this we not use the American broadcast but that international commentators should be used.

WFDF could gain more revenue by selling rights, selling advertising time and if a tertiary stream would be set up behind a pay wall. If WFDF would get on ESPN2 it will help to get sponsors in the future and would greatly improve viewer numbers. He will update during the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Givens to approve of Rockwood moving forward with the negotiations, seconded by Taylor. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **WFDF 2018 Congress - venue and date**

It was discussed that the 2018 Congress be held on the occasion of WUCC 2018 on the first event weekend. The proposal will be discussed with TOC and put forward for a vote at the next meeting.

## **IT project and website revamp**

Taylor reported that there was a delay due to McLeod stepping down from his Media post. It had been agreed by the ExComm that there would be an arrangement made to support the project with an extended timeline of six weeks to complete the project.

## **Reports and Updates**

### **WFDF Governance**

#### **Athletes' Commission Report**

Purcell referenced his report and advised that the Commission is discussing a convention for players at WUCC, most likely stressing gender equity. He will involve Malone in the further discussions and they will hold an Athletes' Commission meeting before the end of year.

Bernardi informed the Board that Purcell would like to be nominated for the WADA Athlete Committee appointment 2017 and he would contact WADA on the matter following up.

#### **Olympic Games 2024 and 2028 decision recap**

Bernardi reported that the IOC has awarded the Olympic Games 2024 (Paris) and 2028 (Los Angeles). The IOC also has approved of the core sports except weightlifting for these Games. WFDF will have to use the additional events procedure to have a chance to join the program.

The additional events will be decided on by 2020 at the IOC Session in Tokyo. WFDF has used WCBU to connect with the CNOSF in France and also had visits by officials at the World Games. WFDF will continue to promote the inclusion of Flying Disc for the 2024 and 2028 Games.

#### **Report on Universiade and IPC GA attendance**

Bernardi referenced his written report and underlined the importance of attending the events.

### **Disc Sport Reports**

#### **Disc Golf**

Mead reported that WTDGC received a very good coverage on social media. WFDF is trying to create a world ranking list of Disc Golf countries like in Ultimate.

#### **Guts**

Taylor reported on activities in Australia. On Guts at AOUGCC he reported that the fields were moved into the middle of the venue and a lot of players watched and tried it out. Board member Hu did a good job there and distributed guts discs.

#### **Freestyle**

Givens asked about the WFDF Freestyle event at WOC in Basingstoke. Burvall reported that the event ran well and the turnout and quality was good despite bad weather affecting the event. Givens reported that there was feedback from the participants that WOC was poorly managed and a step backwards from the event in Sweden. The designation of Freestyle as a

major title in Sweden was good. WFDF should learn from this. Burvall confirmed that many Volunteers did not show up and players had to step in. He had asked the TOC before if they needed help but they never accepted. Rauch asked where the problem arose since WFDF relies on local organizers. Woldt added that WFDF needs to push back on the event budgets on all of its events. Face-to-face meetings would better ensure higher event quality. Meetings should also be earlier (6 months before) so WFDF has enough time to give event to someone else if it becomes clear that an organizer is having difficulties.

### **Overall**

Burvall agreed that WOC 2017 was a wake-up call and supported Woldt's evaluation.

### **Beach Ultimate**

Cabrera reported that WCBU was designated as qualifier for the World Beach Games 2019. Rauch informed that regarding the inclusion of Beach Ultimate for that event, WFDF would need to get final confirmation from ANOC.

### **Championship Events and others**

#### **2017 events - report**

Woldt added to her report that PAUCC will now be using Ultiorganizer and Bruno Gravato as administrator.

#### **2017 World Games - Report**

Bernardi reported that the event was a success for WFDF in many areas and left a very good impression on IWGA. He suggested that WFDF should discuss internally on the approach to Multisport Games organizers.

#### **2017 TDGWC Report**

There was no addition to the written report.

### **Finance**

#### **Treasurer's report**

Bergeron had nothing particular to report beyond the written reports.

#### **Next Meeting**

Proposed: November 4/5, 2017.

**Closing: 17:47 CET**