

Candidate Statement: Stef Stevens, At Large Director



Since I was introduced to Ultimate Frisbee in the spring of 1985, I realized that this was the sport I had been looking for: alternative and yet competitive, a good spirit and with a crowd with a great atmosphere.

I have a broad experience in playing disc sports at all levels (worlds, recreational, demonstrations, open, coed). I have organized ultimate tournaments (including the 1993 WFDF EUGC and the first ever tournament in Vietnam), trained beginners and advanced players from different backgrounds and cultures. I have founded and developed clubs in a number of countries and have put the sport on national agendas.

After competing in leagues and tournaments in Europe and North America for more than 10 years, I left the Netherlands for work reasons and have lived in a number of developing countries. In Vietnam (2001-2006) as well as in Mozambique (from 2006), where I presently live, I have been actively involved in the development of a 'disc infrastructure'.

I am interested in the position of an at large board member, because I want to contribute to strengthening disc sports in countries where they are well established, and support the development of disc sports in new territories. In my opinion WFDF could do more to stimulate the development of disc sports outside the first world and make disc sports accessible to all.

We should further try to put Ultimate on the agenda of global development initiatives like UNDPs Sports for Development and Peace Program, Right To Play etc. Ultimate is by far the best example of 'fair play'.

Ultimate can for example have a positive impact on youth in conflict zones and play an important role in the development of mutual respect and in building life skills. There is great potential to use our sport in this important field. I would like to explore these paths as a board member of WFDF.

Another focus point for me would be maintaining the right balance between growth of the sport ('becoming a mainstream sport') and honoring the unique character of the sport: the spirit of the game. There is a lot at stake in my opinion and I have already experienced the difference in interpretation of 'spirit of the game' in the different leagues in the world. This issue requires a clear WFDF position.

I am qualified to serve as a member of the board of directors to the WFDF since I am familiar with both team and individual disc sports, I have a big network of players from many countries and I have a broad range of experience related to these sports; capacity building, training, promotion, development, institutional (boards of a number of clubs and advisory board to the Dutch Flying Disc Association).

Disc Curriculum Vitae Stef Stevens

Playing Ultimate:

- ✍ 1985 introduced to Ultimate
- ✍ Played in Dutch competition and in European and North American tournaments from 1986-1996
- ✍ Played with the Dutch national Ultimate team (open division) at
 - WFDF EUGC National Teams (1987, 1989, 1991, 1993)
 - WFDF WUGC National Teams (1988, 1996 (masters division))
- ✍ Played at WFDF World Club Championships (1989, 1993, 1995 (for Red Lights, Amsterdam open division) and 2002 (for Durian Ultimate, Jakarta, coed division))
- ✍ Played tournaments and league from 2001-2007 in Asia and Africa

Playing other Disc Events:

- ✍ Played in the Dutch national Disc Golf league and international tournaments from 1987-1996
- ✍ Dutch Disc Golf Champion in 1996
- ✍ Participated in Dutch national championships field events (including organization)
- ✍ Participated at the 1989 US Open Flying Disc in La Mirada.
- ✍ Introduced Disc Golf and other individual events in Viet Nam.
- ✍ Played in DDC tournaments and guts tournaments

Institutional Experience

- ✍ Founder and a board member of a number of disc clubs (WAF, Icecream Headache, Hanoi Ultimate Club)
- ✍ Board member of the advisory committee ('Raad van Commissarissen') to the Dutch Flying Disc Association (NFB) 1993-1995.

Organising Disc Events

- ✍ Designed a number of disc golf courses in The Netherlands and organized Disc Golf tournaments
- ✍ Organiser of Individual Events Championships in the Netherlands
- ✍ Organiser of the 'WAF International Tournament' in 1992, an alternative tournament for national teams who could not make it to the 1992 WUGC in Japan.
- ✍ One of the TDs of the 1993 WFDF EUGC (Arnhem, The Netherlands)
- ✍ Organiser of the first International Ultimate (HAT) Tournament in Hanoi (2004) a serious challenge in a country like Vietnam!

Developing Disc

- ✍ Training beginners and advanced Ultimate players in various countries, with different backgrounds and ages (1986-2007)
- ✍ Working as an after school activity teacher at the United Nations International School in Hanoi (2005-2006), teaching Ultimate Frisbee.
- ✍ Organizing clinics, demonstration games and fundraising activities for the promotion of disc sports (1987-2007)
- ✍ Ultimate demonstrations in the in the freshly established Czech Republic in 1991 and further support of the pioneers of Ultimate in Prague with discs and training materials (1992 -1994)
- ✍ Developing the Hanoi Ultimate Club in Vietnam and the Saigon Ultimate Club (2001-2006)
 - Design of discs and apparel in order to raise funds for local players to participate in regional tournaments (www.hanoi-ultimate.com, www.cafepress.com/propart)
 - Demonstration games and training local players
- ✍ Developing an Ultimate group in Maputo (2006 -2007)

Personalia

Name	Stef W.L. Stevens	E-mail	stef@stevensarts.com
Address	Francisco Barreto 78-124 Sommershield Maputo, Mozambique	Date of Birth	October 12, 1963
Telephone	(+258) 21 485 740 (+258) 825 617 249 (mobile)	Gender	Male
		Nationality	Netherlands
		Marital Status	Married, 2 children

Profile

Skills	Organiser, innovator, team builder/coach, intercultural management, cross cultural management
Qualities	Creative, analytical, inspiring, trustworthy, pro active
Values	Honesty, transparency, respect for diversity, solidarity
Ambitions	Contribute to environmental awareness, sustainable development and equity

Work experience

2007	Iris Imaginacoes, Maputo, Mozambique Developer of educational material (Life Skills, malaria awareness)
2006	COWI, Maputo Office, Mozambique International Consultant (EIA Project Proposal Development)
2003-2006	SNV (Dutch Development Cooperation) Viet Nam International Consultant <ul style="list-style-type: none">? Natural Disaster Mitigation (analyzing Natural Disaster initiatives in Mekong Region, developing new projects for SNV)? Proposal and Project Development (preparing tenders and editing project proposals)? Environmental Expert (in multi disciplinary mission in Central Viet Nam, verification of natural disaster projects for RNE Hanoi, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA))? Backstopping SNV Country Director (in multi donor meetings working in disaster relief)
2002 and 2004	CCF (Christian Children's Fund) Australia office in Viet Nam Environmental Consultant (EIA of food security project, EIAs of new school constructions)
2001	FUNDEMUN (Fundación para el Desarrollo Municipal) USAID, Honduras Environmental Consultant (ICZM, identification of environmental issues and constraints, participatory development of future strategies for coastal municipalities in Honduras)
2000	WASTE (NGO working in waste management) in La Ceiba, Honduras Environmental Consultant (Survey/evaluation of World Bank project documents)
1998-1999	IUCN (World Conservation Union) in Karachi, Pakistan Associate Expert (Dutch Min. of Foreign Affairs) in Coastal Management/Marine issues (EIA, Surveys in the Indus Delta, ICZM)
1997-1998	IBN-SINA (Afghan Medical NGO) Peshawar/Kabul, Pakistan-Afghanistan IT manager and trainer (capacity building in computer skills of medical staff)
1996	Pre-Consultants (Life Cycle Analysis Expert firm), Netherlands Environmental Life Cycle (LC) Officer (advisor to companies and Dutch ministries in the field of Environmental LC Analyses)
1994-1996	Dutch Eco-labelling Foundation (St. Milieukeur) The Hague, Netherlands Staff member (market & product screening, developing new criteria for eco-labels)
1991-1993	Nat. Institute for Forestry and Nature Research (DLO), Wageningen, NL <ul style="list-style-type: none">? Forestry Researcher (effects of grazing on forest development, GIS mapping)? Marine Researcher (effects of human disturbance on seal populations)
1990-1991	Witteveen & Bos, Dept. water quality and fisheries, Netherlands Fisheries Researcher (analysing trawl and seine catches in lakes)
1987-1990	Research for MSc. Biology, Agricultural University Wageningen, NL <ul style="list-style-type: none">? Staff member dolphin research centre Honolulu, Hawaii, USA .? Research on Pacific Walruses, Marine Park, Harderwijk, Netherlands.? Marine Ecology Research on Sea grass, Wadden Sea, Netherlands.

Education

1993-1994 Postgraduate Study Environmental Management, Eindhoven, Netherlands.
1984-1990 Master of Science in Biology, Agricultural University Wageningen, Netherlands.
1987-1988 Marine Biology specialization at Groningen University, Netherlands.

Other experiences and skills

- ? Management experience as board member of various sports associations, organiser of events, financial management of tournaments, lobbying national sport bodies
- ? Languages: English (excel.), Spanish (good), French (good), German (good) Portuguese (good, taking lessons), Dutch (mother tongue).
- ? Computer skills (GIS, DTP, Design, MS Office, MS Windows, Internet)
- ? Design and lay-out of publications, posters, web pages and apparel
- ? Full clean drivers' license
- ? Scuba diving certificates (CMAS *, PADI ^{AOW, ND})