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PRESS RELEASE

WFDF announces results of 2018 elections following major revamp of the governance structure and Board composition

WFDF President Rauch re-elected

The World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) has announced the results of its 2018 elections. This comes after the international federation recognized by the IOC for Flying Disc sports had executed a major revamp of its governance structure and Board composition that had been unanimously approved by the WFDF membership in the autumn of 2018. Among other positions, the membership re-elected Robert “Nob” Rauch as President for an additional two-year term.

“WFDF is excited about the revisions to our governance structure with the expansion of the Board of Directors, bringing in the heads of our Continental associations and formalizing several other ex-officio positions. We are also extremely pleased to have increased the number of women on the Board to seven out of the eighteen members as we continue to pursue gender equality in our governance structure as well as in our competitive events,” commented WFDF President Robert “Nob” Rauch.

“I want to thank WFDF’s member associations for their confidence in me and support as we continue to pursue our strategic vision. I look forward to working with our very capable returning and new board members as we update our strategic plan this year and look to further implement programs to achieve our competition, growth, and development goals.”

The governance review and Board composition update included the installment of formal Continental Representatives from Africa, Asia-Oceania, PanAmerica and Europe within the Board, increasing the participation of the continents in the decision-making process. The chair of the Spirit of the Game Ultimate Sub-Committee was accepted as a voting Board member to reflect the importance of SOTG for WFDF as a sport and organization.

Together with the formalisation of the chair of the Medical and Anti-Doping Committee as a voting Board member and the introduction of two at-large Board members appointed by the Board, the Board membership increased from 14 to 18 members. The WFDF Member Associations voted on the open positions on the Board of Directors and on the Ultimate Committee to serve, effective 1 January 2019.

The 2018 election was conducted online via a voting form using the Single Transferable Vote methodology. In the elections for the one contested position of the SOTG chair as Board member Travis Smith (CAN) narrowly edged out contender José Amoroso (POR), while the other positions were elected in uncontested votes.

The following candidates were elected by the WFDF membership for the respective open Board positions:



President: Robert “Nob” Rauch (USA), Executive Committee position

Robert “Nob” Rauch was an active Ultimate player from 1976 to 1994 and has been involved in positions of leadership in disc sports since 1987. He was the National Director/Executive Director of the Ultimate Players Association (the UPA, now USA Ultimate) from 1988 to 1990, was chairman of the UPA’s Executive Committee in 1991-1992 and is currently a member of the USAU Investment Committee and Hall of Fame Committee. He has also served as president of the WFDF from 1992 to 1994 and from 2011 to the present and as Chair of its Ultimate Committee from 1988 to 1992. He starts his fifth consecutive term at the beginning of 2019.

As an athlete playing on Ultimate teams in Chicago, Boston, and New York, Rauch won six US National Championships and five World Championships, and he was elected to the Ultimate Hall of Fame in 2006. He also was a contributing author for the book “Ultimate: The First Five Decades” for Volume 1,

published in December 2005, and Volume 2 in January 2019. Rauch has a 38-year career in finance and is currently a partner and portfolio manager of Gramercy Financial Group, a US\$5 billion investment firm specializing in corporate and sovereign debt investments in global emerging markets. He received his bachelor's degree in political economy from Williams College and master's degree in finance and international business from the Kellogg School of Northwestern University. He is married to former Ultimate player Katie Shields Rauch and has three children.



Disc Golf Chair: Charlie Mead (GBR)

Charlie Mead has rich experience as a player, administrator and tournament organizer of all disc sports since 1980. He has held World Overall titles, and European and British Titles in Disc Golf in Open, Master, Grand Master and Senior Grand Master Divisions, and he was awarded the Steady Ed Headrick Trophy for representing and developing Disc Golf in 2013. Still active, for 2016 he was elected Captain of the GB Team for the European Disc Golf Championships in Oulu, Finland. He was also a member of the Great Britain National Ultimate Team from 1982-1991 in the Open and Masters' Divisions. Charlie was the first UK Flying Disc President (1981), first European Flying Disc Federation President (1982), first WFDF President (1985- 1989), Chair of the WFDF Ultimate Committee and Board member (1994-2002), and he is currently International Coordinator for the British Disc Golf Association (BDGA). Charlie was the Tournament Director for the WFDF Overall Championships in Colchester in 1989, the TD for WFDF World Ultimate Championships in 1986, 1994, 1995, and 1999, and Technical TD for WFDF's events in 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, and 2002. Outside of his disc career, Charlie is currently an independent consultant providing localized community-based psychological support to children in need. He received a BA (Hons) from Keele University, and M. Ed degrees in both Child Psychology and Educational Psychology from Birmingham University. Charlie lives with partner Maggi on their farm in Devon, UK.



Beach Ultimate Committee Chair: Karen Cabrera (PHI)

Karen has played Beach Ultimate since 2004 and has been a member of the Beach Ultimate Committee since 2007. She has organized local and international tournaments and has run development clinics. Karen has managed and played for the Boracay Dragons Ultimate team since 2005, participating in three World Championships of Beach Ultimate. Since 2013, she has been a board member for the Philippine Flying Disc Association. Karen lives on the island of Boracay in the Philippines.



Overall Committee Chair: Rob McLeod (CAN)

Robert McLeod is a full time motivational speaker and frisbee ambassador with six Guinness World Records, 14 WFDF World Records, and 12 World Championships in the sport of flying disc. Rob has competed in all of the disc sports recognized by the WFDF and is still an active player in most of them. He has been playing frisbee for 18 years and is looking forward to continuing to grow the sport internationally in his new role as both the Overall Chair and as a WFDF Board Member.



Guts Committee Chair: Steve Taylor (USA)

Steve has been the President of USA Guts since 2007. As an athlete, he has played Guts since 1981 and his team won the 2010 US National Championship. He was a member of Team USA at WUGC 2004 and WUGC 2008 and participated in the All Japan Guts Tournament in Tokyo in 2007 and 2009. Steve is the owner and partner of LUX Interactive, which provides web-based software solutions to a variety of clients, including concentrations in airlines, not-for-profit organizations, and e-commerce clients.



Spirit of the Game Committee (SOTG) Chair: Travis Smith (CAN)

Travis F. Smith is the Chair of the Spirit of the Game Committee and the National Spirit Director of Ultimate Canada. He is also the owner of hopstudios.com, a Web design and development company based in Vancouver, Canada. He has been building content-rich, elegant websites since 1994, when he was deputy editorial director and one of the creators of the Los Angeles Times website. He's a professional speaker on such topics as blogging (unvarnished.com), subscription-based revenue models, and online journalism, and has been the editor of Variety.com and a lecturer at the University of Southern California and at BCIT.

Elected by the Continental Associations and approved by the respective WFDF membership for the open positions:



Africa Continental Representative: Alex "Queenie" Matovu (UGA) for AAFDF

Alex "Queenie" Matovu started playing ultimate in 1995 in Kampala as a teenager. In 1999 he started the Kampala Ultimate Frisbee Club just after organizing a first ever tournament in November 1999. From 2001-2005 he ran a series of tournaments attracting several embassies and schools and ran tournaments on the same ground. In 2006 he started the Seven Hills Classics Ultimate tournament which later became one of the biggest Ultimate Tournaments in Africa attracting five to seven countries within the region of East Africa. In 2015 Alex led team Uganda to the WCBU2015, with the same year Uganda hosting the first All Africa Ultimate Club Championship and hosting a WFDF East Africa Ultimate Clinic. In 2016 Matovu discussed to form the All Africa Flying Disc Federation (AAFDF) which was officially launched at the 2017 All Africa Ultimate Club Champion in Nairobi. Alex has been President since 2017 for the All Africa Flying Disc Federation. Outside of the Ultimate scene, he is a Director of Activate Uganda, a sports events management company, has run several businesses in Uganda, and worked for the US State Department as a contractor.



America Representative: Jesus Loreto (VEN) for PAFDF

Jesus is the America representative on the WFDF Board of Directors as President of the PanAmerican Flying Disc Federation (PAFDF). Having been the Venezuelan international contact for WFDF and AVU, the WFDF member association in Venezuela, for many years, he had also previously served as a WFDF at-Large Board member from 2007 to 2011. Jesus has played a key role in the development of Flying Disc sports in Latin America since the 1980s.



Asia/Oceania Continental Representative: Fumio "Moro" Morooka (JPN) for AFDF

Moro is a sports education professional who has been a Board Member of WFDF continuously since 1992. He has also currently served as President of Japan Flying Disc Association since 2009 and is on the Executive Committee of the International World Games Association. He was Tournament Director of the WFDF WUGC in 1992 and TOC President in 2012 of the World Ultimate and Guts Championships held in Japan. In addition to disc sports, Moro has been a Board Member of the Japan Olympic Academy (JOA) from 2007 to the Present and Executive Director of the Japan World Games Association (JWGA) from 2001 to the present. He previously served as Executive Director of the World Games 2001 Akita Organizing Committee and was a Council Member of SportAccord from 2009 -2011. Moro is Professor of Department of Health and Physical Education at Sophia University in Tokyo, where he has served as its chair and has authored numerous books and papers in the field of sports and recreation.



European Continental Representative: Amandine Constant (FRA) for EFDF

Amandine is the Secretary General of the French Flying Disc Federation (FFDF) and hold the position of Secretary General of the European Flying Disc Federation (EFDF). She has been playing Ultimate in France since 2006, and was awarded the SOTG prize at WCBU 2011 in Italy with the French Women's Team. Amandine also has been actively part of different national and international projects such as the France U17 Girls and U20 Men team manager, a Grenoble University Team coach, a co-founder of Ultimate Federation of Mali and President of Grenoble Flying Disc Club for four years.

She has organized numerous Ultimate tournaments including being Event Director for WCBU2017 in Royan, France.

Returning Members of the Board



Secretary: Thomas Griesbaum (GER), Executive Committee position

Thomas has been involved with disc sports since 1981, beginning with freestyle, disc golf and field events and later with Ultimate. He served as a WFDF board member from 2001-2006 and rejoined as Secretary in 2011. He has been President of the European Flying Disc Federation since 1990 and was a co-founder of Deutscher Frisbeesport-Verband for which he served as President from 1989-2000. He organized the first Ultimate exhibition in the World Games in 1989 and served as WFDF's technical delegate at the 2005 World Games. Thomas is currently a staff member of the Faculty of Informatics at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.



Treasurer: Kate Bergeron (USA), Executive Committee position

Kate rejoined the Board as WFDF Treasurer in 2014, having held this position previously from 2008 through the end of 2012. She has served as a WFDF board member since 2007 and has held numerous functions at the Ultimate Players Association (now USA Ultimate) including serving as its President from 2002 to 2004. Kate has worked as a coach for several Women's Ultimate teams and recently won the Silver medal at 2014 World Ultimate Club Championships in the Women's Masters division with Godiva. Kate is a Senior Director, Macintosh Product Design, Apple Inc. at Cupertino, CA and has experience as a Product Development Executive for many years.



Chair, Ultimate Committee: Brian Gisel (CAN), Executive Committee member

Brian has been a WFDF board member since 2009 and previously from 2002-2007, serving as the Ultimate Committee Chair from 2004-2007. He was tournament director of the 2008 World Ultimate and Guts Championships and the 1997 World Ultimate Club Championships and has run several Canadian National Championships. He was the Vancouver Ultimate League Board President from 2009-2012 and has also served on the Ultimate Canada board. Brian is currently the General Manager of BC Ultimate.



Chair, Freestyle: Kevin "Skippy Jammer" Givens (USA)

Skippy has more than 35 years of experience in managing and playing freestyle. He has been the Tournament Director for the Freestyle Players Association World Championship four times, the Tournament Director of the WFDF Overall World Championships twice and has won 14 major freestyle titles as a competitor. He was also the WFDF Executive Director from 2008-2010. Skippy recently retired from his position as the Intramural and Sports Club Supervisor (Competitive Sports Director) for the University of California, Santa Cruz.



Medical Director: Jamie Nuwer (USA)

Jamie has served as the Medical Anti-Doping Committee Chairwoman of WFDF since 2011 and as the Medical Committee Chairwoman for USA Ultimate since 2010. She has been the coach for the UCLA and Stanford Women's Ultimate Frisbee teams since 2003 and was coach of the USA U20 and U23 junior national teams in 2012-2013. She has done research on college Ultimate injuries and developed the Sports Medicine Section of the USA Ultimate Coaching Manual for Coaching. She is currently a physician at the Menlo Medical Clinic in California.



Director at large appointed by the Board: Caroline Malone (QAT)

Caroline 'Caz' Malone is WFDF's Women in Sport Commission Chair. As Director-at-large she's developing flying disc sports globally and focusing on gender equality and equity. Caz is an international Ultimate Frisbee player with experience in Open, Mixed and Women's teams across three continents. She helped launch and develop the Ultimate Players Association of Qatar, and served as Development Director and President 2015-2017. In her professional life, Caz is an award-winning TV/Digital producer/ reporter for international news broadcasters with 15 years global experience.



Director at large appointed by the Board: Yoonee Jeong (KOR)

Yoonee first caught the Ultimate fever in 2004 and served as the first female president of Korea Ultimate Players Association (KUPA) from 2008 to 2010. She continued to play Ultimate through marriage, work and three kids, and most recently was part of Singapore Women's Team at the WBCU 2017 and Women's Masters Team at the WMUCC 2018. She also was a Game Advisor for the U24 2018 and WUCC 2018. For her day job, Yoonee works at Telenor Group as a Director of Public and Regulatory Affairs. Previously, she has worked for international organizations such as the UN and World Bank as a technology public policy professional.



Athletes Commission Chair: Alison "Ali" Smith (GBR)

Ali started playing Ultimate as a student at Leeds University, UK in 2000 and has since played with teams across all three divisions of the UK Tour. She has also been fortunate enough to play at multiple European Club tournaments and at four World Club tournaments; twice in Mixed and twice in Women's. Ali started her GB career in 2003 and continued through to WUGC in 2012, winning three European Gold medals on grass and one World Beach Silver medal. After retiring from GB in 2012, she became part of the GB Oversight Committee and in 2018 was asked to take on the voluntary role of GB Performance Director. Smith currently sits on the Board of Directors for UK Ultimate and for WFDF, where she holds the role of Chair of the Athletes' Commission. Outside of Ultimate, she completed a PhD in 2008 and has

worked ever since at the University of Bath, UK where she teaches and researches in sport psychology. She has also worked with a number of sports organizations including the Premier League, Sport England, UK Sport, and UK Anti-Doping.

Election Result Details

The 2018 Election was conducted online via a voting form using the Single Transferable Vote methodology. There were 53 regular members in good standing with a total of 151 votes. To meet the requisite majorities, a total of 77 votes were required for election with no less than 28 member associations voting.

Over the course of the voting period, which extended from November 15 to December 15, 2018, 48 members with a total of 145 votes cast their ballots. All candidates have received the quorum needed for passage.



The following votes were tallied per each candidate:

WFDF Board of Directors Members:

President: Robert “Nob” RAUCH (137 yes, 8 abstentions)
Chair, Disc Golf: Charlie MEAD (119 yes, 26 abstentions)
Chair, Guts: Steve TAYLOR (110 yes, 35 abstentions)
Chair, Beach Ultimate: Karen CABRERA (140 yes, 5 abstentions)
Chair, Overall: Rob McLeod (120 yes, 25 abstentions)
Chair, SOTG: Travis Smith (72 yes), José Amoroso (66 yes) STV votes

Africa Representative: Alex “Queenie” MATOVU (elected with 2 continental member voting – 4 yes)
America Representative: Jesus LORERTO (elected with 5 continental members voting – 11 yes)
Asia/Oceania Representative: Fumio MOROOKA (elected with 6 continental members voting – 16 yes)
European Representative: Amandine CONSTANT (elected with 20 continental members voting – 64 yes)

Ultimate Committee Members:

Ultimate Committee Deputy Chair: Will DEEVER (140 yes, 5 abstentions)
Championships Sub-Committee Chair: Simon HILL (137 yes, 8 abstentions)
Rules Subcommittee Chair: Rueben BERG (137 yes, 8 abstentions)

About WFDF:

The World Flying Disc Federation is the international sports federation responsible for world governance of flying disc (frisbee) sports, including Ultimate, Beach Ultimate, Disc Golf, Freestyle, Guts and Overall Events. WFDF is a federation of 86 member associations that represent flying disc sports and their athletes in over 84 countries. WFDF is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and it is a member of the Association of Recognised International Federations (ARISF). WFDF is a member of GAISF and the International World Games Association (IWGA) and IMGA. It is also a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Agency Code. WFDF is a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of Colorado, USA.

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