

## **Sunday, June 1, 2014**

Conference Call on Sunday June 1st, 2014; UK, POR- 14:00; GER, SUI, SWE, RSA - 15:00; USA NY, VA, MI 09:00; USA CO, AZ 07:00; USA CA, CAN BC 06:00; Japan 22:00; Taiwan 21:00.

### **Board members present:**

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Kate Bergeron, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Patrick van der Valk, Brian Gisel, Tomas Burvall, Jamie Nuwer, Steve Taylor, Michael Downes, Vincent Gaillard (by Proxy to Fumio Morooka), Kevin Givens (by Proxy to Patrick van der Valk).

Also attending: Ryan Purcell (Athletes' Committee, non-voting, Volker Bernardi, Executive Director (non-voting), Karina Woldt, Event Manager (non-voting)

### **Call to order (time: 15:02 CEST)**

The quorum was reached with 13 members being present (full participation).

### **Report by the President**

President Rauch welcomed all Board members and thanked them for joining the conference call.

### **Decisions between meetings**

Rauch referred the decisions between meetings file from the Board briefing book.

### **Minutes of meeting of March 29, 2014**

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Gisel, seconded by Morooka. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Decisions requiring votes of the Board**

#### **Disc Golf Committee - approval of members**

Rauch introduced Michael Downes who was appointed as WFDF Disc Golf chair earlier this year and today joined his first board meeting. Downes gave a presentation of the Disc Golf Committee composition and proposed members from 7 regions. Brian Hoeniger is proposed as chair advisor being the international representative for PDGA. Representatives from South America and Africa are still sought.

Downes added that the Japan Open and US Amateur championships are coming up next weekend. In 2015 there should be an event jointly sanctioned by PDGA and WFDF. Downes confirmed that Hoeniger is in contact with Paul Francz about the EDGC 2014 in Geneva.

Downes made a motion to approve the composition of the Disc Golf Committee,

seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **2014 Athlete`s Commission report and approval of program**

Purcell explained the plans for changes coming up for the Athlete`s Commission elections 2014 and the future composition of the Commission. The athletes shall elect 3 members at WUCC 2014 for a 4 year term (replacing the current members) and then elect an additional 3 members at WUGC in 2016 to finally make up a Commission composed of six members.

Rauch made a motion to approve these changes, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

Purcell added that the Athlete`s Commission had proposed a Players meeting at WUCC but decided to combine the meeting with a spirit of the game session that is planned.

### **Spirit of the Game Task Force proposal**

Gisel reported about the work of the SOTG Task Force chaired by Rueben Berg which was rigorous and productive. The Task Force did a lot of work and had in-depth discussions. Gisel applauded Berg for the proceedings. The final report being reviewed by the board is the result of good discussions and input from around the world and reaffirms the direction in which WFDF was already going. WFDF will keep the support of self-officiating as a top priority and a better education is a key element in support of this. More and more non-Ultimate players are watching events such as pure spectators in person or through the media or officials from other associations and that has resulted in WFDF establishing the official role of Game Advisors.

Rauch explained the differences of what will be done this year at the 2014 events as opposed to the past.

Gisel reported that the main recommendation for 2014 is to have Game Advisors with a limited role for this year.

An additional change in the composition of the TRG in the Conduct Policy addresses the fact that TRG in the past included players from teams from each division. But this turned out not being practical, since players are often playing or busy otherwise. In the past sometimes situations had to be dealt with by the TD and WFDF officials without the TRG for practical reasons. In 2014 the TRG should be smaller and more pro-active than purely reactive.

Certified USAU Observers could help developing the Game Advisor concept. Gisel is optimistic to find four Certified Observers to serve as Game Advisors for WUCC. The first 4-5 days could be used to train Game Advisors (as per recommendation 3 in the final report). Unlike Observers, Game Advisors do not make active calls. They may be called but don't have to express an opinion on every situation asked about.

Gisel underlined that the toughest Conduct violations for WFDF in the past 10 years involved off-field situations. He added that Game Advisors could also mediate off-field issues. Separately, Nuwer emphasized the importance to educate players about contact

fouls and injuries which can happen on account of such contact. Van der Valk was surprised to hear that a lot of injuries occur through contacts in a totally “non-contact” sport. Nuwer will publish a report about such injuries, as she feels there definitely needs to be further awareness of the issues.

Gisel reported that USAU operates a time limit for putting a disc back into game after a turnover (10 sec. rule). Game Advisors could help establish the count for a time limit for the discussion of calls from 60 sec to 45 sec.

Nuwer recommended having a designated translator on each team. Gisel would like to have these people found before the game.

Also definitive answers to rule questions are important and very helpful. Game Advisors can be helpful in reminding off sides rule. Procedures need to be developed about how misconduct during a game can be addressed as well as outside of the game.

The new proposals being discussed today are only to be implemented in 2015 and beyond but the Game Advisor proposal is for 2014 already.

Rauch recommended looking to get approval of the recommendations of the Task Force, than approve the funding for Game Advisors before publishing the Task Force results.

Gisel made a motion to approve the Task Force recommendations, seconded by Rauch. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bernardi requested clarification on whether the new changes need to be approved by Congress. Rauch confirmed that Congress would get a chance to discuss it and give further input. The nature of the TRG changes in the Conduct Policy is very technical so Congress need not vote on this.

### **Approval of additional expenses for 2014**

Rauch outlined various unbudgeted expense proposals totaling to US\$ 25,804 for the Trial of Game Advisors in Lecco, the WFDF Spirit of the Game Conference, Hospitality Packages for WUCC, Brian Gisel attending the US Open, financial support for Continental Associations and a coaching program for Poland.

#### Game Advisor Trial at WUCC 2014, Lecco:

Gisel added that the 2014 Game Advisors would most likely come from North America and therefore the travel costs for them would need to be reimbursed. These would be USAU certified Observers from Canada and USA with a gender mix. They will also be experienced trainers. We cannot count on people randomly show up.

Nuwer added that she was an Observer and that it would be better to have two Observers per game. Gisel corrected that we are not talking about Observer situations as the Game Advisors have fewer duties than an observer. We are trying to balance the needs as we go. Purcell mentioned that as we will be doing this for the first time it may take a few years to get it right. He sees problems with candidates being only from North America. Gisel responded that he looked around to find people from other regions, but

individuals he approached either cannot be in Lecco or will be playing themselves. Certainly going forward we will try to balance the selection of Games Advisors globally. Van der Valk added that the key to success for the Game Advisors will be knowing where the action is and having rules knowledge. He is sure that there are enough Europeans who fit in that frame. Gisel added that just knowing the game and rules is not sufficient to be a good Observer. Van der Valk asked to write though EuroDisc and to national federations to find people. Gisel agreed as he has not given up on Europe.

Gisel made a motion to approve the budget for four Game Advisors for WUCC in Lecco 20114, seconded by Rauch. The motion was approved unanimously.

Gisel will send a written description for the event handbook.

#### Hospitality Packages at WUCC 2014:

Rauch reported that Gaillard had proposed to have a Hospitality program for VIP guests in the light of the efforts of WFDF on international level.

Rauch made a motion to approve the Hospitality budget, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### SOTG project - Proposal by SOTG Sub-Committee for WUCC - special budget:

Van der Valk reported on the discussions within the SOTG Sub-Committee on activities to be taken at WUCC given the fact that many players from different countries in Lecco can learn from each other and teach each other. The conference and talks can be recorded and passed around as there is very little material about SOTG existing. On Monday night a forum/podium is planned at Lecco. Costs arise for a Conference Organizer (Mario O'Brien from RiseUp), the filming and a video post-production (by UltimatEvents).

Gisel was concerned about the involvement of Max Vitali in this project as another responsibility for the event that will require time separate from other crucial organizational task for WUCC. The project should be done by somebody else on TOC side.

Van der Valk mentioned that he had contacted Skyd magazine to do the videotaping but Vitali had told him that TOC would own rights for side events.

After a longer discussion about TOC's time capacities and priorities, van der Valk confirmed that the WFDF SOTG conference project would be conducted by Luigi on TOC's side.

Based on the condition that Max Vitali steps out of any work and delegates the task to Luigi, van der Valk made a motion to approve the budget, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### Brian Gisel attendance at US Open:

Rauch made a motion to approve the travel budget, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

### Financial Support for Continental Associations

Rauch made a motion to approve the budget to provide some limited financial support for Continental Associations, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously.

### Coaching Program for Poland:

Rauch made a motion to approve the budget to set up a coaching program for Poland, since they will be playing in the 2017 World Games as host country and we wish to ensure they will field a competitive team, which seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Budget for 2015**

Rauch gave explanations on the proposed 2015 budget and reported that the budget must be included to the Congress briefing book to be sent out on Monday, 2 June 2014.

He explained the upcoming application for the ARISF developing grant and added that 2015 would be a relatively lower revenue year.

Rauch added that Bergeron had stepped up for the Treasurer position after Hammerly stepped down for personal reasons. Hammerly had a good impact on WFDF's development and Rauch expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the work done by Hammerly.

Rauch made a motion to approve the 2015 budget with one addendum on WOC, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Approval of appointment of a new bookkeeper**

Rauch reported that the current bookkeeper is unable to continue but that Hammerly had expressed a willingness to take on the task, and do it at a lower rate. Treasurer Bergeron is supportive.

Rauch made a motion to appoint Hammerly as bookkeeper, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Risk Assessment 2014**

Rauch informed the Board that this risk assessment needs to be done annually to ensure we discuss the risk aspects in the delivery of our events, safety, ability to attract volunteers, protect public image, and maintain good governance, among other elements. Nuwer added that the issues of emergency staff at events need to be emphasized more.

Rauch made a motion to approve the Risk Assessment, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Approval of Congress Agenda**

Rauch reported that Congress would have two main topics: topics requiring a vote (such as approving of the budget and auditor and the risk assessment), and items providing an update to congress (such as the presentation about events, anti-doping, the Census and player survey, IOC recognition, Committee and Commission reports, etc). In addition, we are including two general discussion topics, spirit of the game and development projects.

Rauch made a motion to approve the Congress Agenda draft, seconded by Taylor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bernardi asked that the disc sport committee chairs send their reports for the Congress asap by end of June.

### **World U23 Championships proposal - UK Ultimate (GBR)**

Gisel reported that the Ultimate Committee could not review the WU23 host bid from UKU in time for the Board meeting, adding that UKU made a very strong proposal and it looks like the proposal will be satisfactory. Gisel asked to approve the bid under the condition that the Ultimate Committee would approve it.

Gisel made a motion to approve the bid under the condition that the Ultimate Committee would recommend it, seconded by Rauch. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Reports and Updates**

### **WFDF Governance**

#### **IOC recognition/national NOC recognition - update**

Rauch referred to the update given in the briefing book and asked to direct questions to the Executive Director.

#### **Sportaccord convention - report on IWGA, ARISF, IOC, Sportaccord, FISU**

Rauch and Bernardi reported on latest developments and referenced the written report in the briefing book.

#### **FISU cooperation - World University Championships**

Rauch reported that after a huge effort by Bernardi to collect the letters needed from national member associations and National University Sports Federations for an application for consideration by FISU, one letter arrived too late and therefore WFDF's application was formally rejected. WFDF will have to wait for next application slot.

#### **WADA new code from 1 January 2015 - WFDF procedures on rules changes**

Rauch reported that the WADA World Anti-Doping Code has been updated and will come into force on January 1, 2015. The WFDF MADC will propose how WFDF will move forward in seeking to comply with the new WADA code. Bernardi added that there would be a meeting with Nuwer in Lecco to discuss how WFDF would implement the changes.

## **WFDF Congress 2014 preparations and briefing book update**

The briefing book will be sent out on Monday, 2 June 2014, as a first version including all actionable items, with a second version to be sent out in early July including all reports and support information.

## **Annual Member census / membership dues invoices – update**

Bernardi referenced the briefing book document and reported about the census status.

## **Other Flying Disc sports**

### **Disc Golf**

Downes had reported earlier during the meeting.

### **Freestyle**

See written report.

### **Guts**

Taylor reported that he is trying to rebuild international Guts and USA Guts. Rauch added that we will be asking for an expression of interest to host WUGC and take the decision in January 2015.

Hu is waiting for the call for bids for AOGCC. Bernardi will draft the announcement immediately.

## **Overall**

Burvall had nothing to report and is looking forward to meeting Woldt in Lecco.

## **Events**

### **WUCC / WJUC 2014 Status Report**

Bernardi reported that working with TOC in Lecco is a challenge but that the event is coming together. Woldt and Bernardi will meet TOC on 8-11 June in Lecco where Woldt will be taking detailed notes to assist us in amending the future contracts by topics identified as important and missing.

Rauch asked to look at bid documents by mid-July as we will soon make a call for bids for WUGC and we need an updated version for this process.

### **AOUC 2015 / PAUC 2015 Status Report**

Bernardi reported that as of the initial bid deadlines there is interest to host AOUC from Hong Kong China (Michael Hsu), and that for PAUC there is a bid from Mexico. HKUPA

asked for support by contacting their NOC to secure the fields. Bernardi will send such letter.

### **WCBU 2015 - update**

Van der Valk reported that TOC has put up accommodation options now, for €42 per person per night including breakfast. There are still some comments about price and ethics in Dubai. But there is a lot of interest in particular from a number of new countries in Africa and Eastern Europe.

That might even result in having a new association. UPAI wants to send 3 teams, Philippines have mentioned interest. Live video might turn out to be more expensive. But besides that everything is looking good. Team registration ends end of August.

Bernardi is confident that the membership issue of United Arab Emirates Ultimate will be solved soon.

### **WUGC 2016 – process**

Upon approval of the proposed timeline by Gisel, the call for bids will be announced.

## **Finance**

### **Transition of Treasurer function**

Bergeron has received all information needed but and the transition will take place with the transfer of access to the main bank accounts at Wells Fargo.

### **End of Year 2013 financials and auditor's report**

Rauch referenced the audited financials draft, commented on how the accounts are presented along program lines which is different than the monthly management account statements that are presented to the board (based on our general ledger chart of accounts), and described audit documents.

Rauch made a motion to approve the audited documents, seconded by Downes. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Any other business:**

- Rauch asked the Board members for input and ideas on the face-to-face Board meeting to be held bi-annually, probably in November 2014.
- Bernardi asked Rauch for input about the ARISF development proposal to be sent out no later than Monday.

### **Next Meeting**

Proposed date: 28/29 June 2014.



## **Closing**

The meeting closed at 18:03 CEST.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary