

Sunday, June 29, 2014

Conference Call on Sunday June 29th, 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, Michael Hu, Patrick van der Valk, Brian Gisel, Tomas Burvall, Jamie Nuwer, Steve Taylor, Michael Downes.

Board members absent/excused: Vincent Gaillard, Kevin Givens, Fumio Morooka

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

Call to order (time: 15:04 CEST)

The quorum was reached with 10 members being present.

Report by the President

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

Decisions between meetings

None.

Minutes of meeting of June 1, 2014

Burvall asked for support in preparing the reports for the meetings. Rauch asked that other reports can be used as templates. Bernardi asked that Board members do not hesitate to ask for questions on any kind of procedures, reports or deadlines.

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Bergeron, seconded by Gisel. The minutes were approved unanimously with one abstention.

Decisions requiring votes of the Board

United Arab Emirates (UAE) application for regular membership

Bernardi reported on the application, which he confirmed meets WFDF's requirements. However, he indicated that this application from United Arabian Ultimate took an long time to be completed as process for legal recognition is extremely complicated, which again suggests that we need to be flexible in the application process as the legal incorporation procedures in many developing countries are quite difficult. WFDF will need to be quite flexible for some countries.

Van der Valk made a motion to approve the application from UAU to be sent to Congress

for final approval, seconded by Nuwer. The motion was approved unanimously.

PAUC 2015 Championships proposal – Ultimate Mexico (UM)

Rauch referenced page 44 of the briefing book where the bid from Ultimate Mexico (UM) to host PAUC 2015 was included. Bernardi added that only one bid was received by WFDF as of the deadline although two other countries had expressed initial interest. Ultimate Mexico has answered all questions of the Ultimate Subcommittee satisfactorily. Some open items are the meal plan and tents intended to be used as accommodations and the ideal time for the event. He suggested moving forward with conditional acceptance of the bid from UM subject to approval by the Ultimate Committee of the remaining open items. Rauch commented that a November time frame over a long weekend seems to be best time. Gisel reported that anything pushed into fall or early winter should not conflict with USAU events. Woldt added that the Events Subcommittee did a very good job in raising questions.

A motion was made by Gisel to conditionally approve the bid from UM for PAUC 2015, seconded by Downes. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

IOC recognition/national NOC recognition - update

Rauch referred to the written report provided in the briefing book and informed the Board that JFDA (Japan) and USAU (USAU) had been recognized by JOC and USOC respectively. WFDF has also received confirmation that SOC (Sweden) has recognized SFF. In general we believe that the WFDF members have made good progress in the pursuit of NOC recognition. There are lots of differences among countries as for example the Australian NOC (AOC) only recognizes sports on the Olympic program. The benefits resulting from the IOC recognition for WFDF are definitely there. Rauch thanked Bernardi for his efforts in this area. Bernardi added that, as Sweden had not officially announced the recognition, to please keep this confidential.

WFDF Congress 2014 - preparations-final briefing book – update

Bernardi reported that on 2 July WFDF will send out an updated and modified Congress briefing book. He will send templates for reports to Burvall as requested earlier. Some members have not paid their 2014 dues yet but Bernardi continues to pursue collections. WFDF should receive most dues in time since many countries will attend WJUC and WUCC and cannot do so without paid dues.

Reports from WFDF Commissions: Youth, Women, Athlete`s

Purcell reported that the Athlete`s Commission has discussed increasing the size of the Committee to six moving forward. Bernardi added that the deadline for nominating candidates to the Athlete`s Commission is 2 July and requested an extension to 9 July just to be sure that all candidates had time to come forward. Purcell had no objection. Rauch asked about committed candidates to date. Purcell confirmed that he would stand

for re-election and that there were several expressions of interest but no firm candidacies so far. Bernardi will follow up.

Annual Member census / membership dues invoices – update

Bernardi reported on the payments from Uganda and Iceland. Uganda has finally paid for 2013 and 2014 (under the “special terms of payment” granted to them). He spoke with President Nadonley from Iceland and he has promised to file the census, but given the unpaid balances for 2013 and 2014, at the moment Iceland is not a member in good standing.

PUPA from Philippines has sent an emergency letter about political problems in the country asking for “special terms of payment” on the membership dues for 2014. Rauch commented that the last major bylaws update of 2008 provided for a 50% discount for members in lesser developed countries. WFDF has only used this system previously for Uganda. Philippines informed that their main revenue, a large tournament, did not create as much income as in the past. Philippines have paid fully in the past all dues.

Rauch proposed to the Board to accept the request for a “special terms of payment” for PUPA in 2014, seconded by Burvall. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Bernardi asked about the dues payment from USGPA and will re-send the invoice.

Bernardi commented that revenues of around USD 62,000 from dues for the year 2014 at this stage is a success. But getting membership fees collected is extremely time-consuming. Rauch confirmed that we cannot do much more than what we are doing already to get payments. It is good that the Executive Director is persistent and having this consistency is helpful. In the past some members were several years behind in dues. Bernardi has succeeded in that almost every member has paid their dues by year end over the last three years.

Other Flying Disc sports

Disc Golf

Downes reported that in June 2014 PDGA sanctioned 270 events. There is a strong membership growth in PDGA. Their upcoming World championship event will have over 1,000 participants. Rauch asked Downes to prepare a proposal a WFDF-PDGA World Championship event in 2015 by the next Board Meeting. For international events people need advance notice. The proposal should be reviewed in the September meeting and include ideas of how WFDF can add to the visibility of Disc Golf on the WFDF website. Downes will get in contact with Bernardi on this question.

Freestyle

See written report.

Guts

Taylor reported that a week ago a big Guts event was held in Japan with around 20 teams participating there. They are in the midst of the main season in the U.S. now. Rauch commented that the #1 priority should be planting seeds by establishing new activities in new places, e.g. a Guts championship in Asia or Guts events in Europe. The goal is to see 8 countries participating in the 2016 World Guts Championships.

Overall

Burvall spoke with U.S. Open TOC on the medals provided by WFDF. Germany will translate the DDC rules.

Ultimate Events

WUCC / WJUC 2014 Status Report

Bernardi reported that he and Woldt are collecting the last important documents from TOC such as the final contracts. It took some pressure to receive some documents which we urgently need. The last meeting with the TOC in early June was tough but now we are more confident about the status of the preparation. Woldt added that many tasks are pending despite our pressure over the last six months, such as the result management system. The deadline to receive the status update by TOC is the day after this Board meeting.

Bernardi added that some items are extremely difficult in Italy. One example is the liability insurance where WFDF is co-insured but only if WFDF sets up a legal representation in Italy. Perhaps we need to set up our usual insurance (Wells-Fargo) although their terms do not quite fit into the Italian judicial system. Another problem with TOC is that they always keep saying that everything is finalized but Bernardi and Woldt insist on seeing written proof, and of course it is not. And the language can be an issue. TOC does not want to bother with translations despite their contractual responsibility to do so.

Woldt added that WFDF has tried to focus on the key issues to make sure that the most important things are in place: fields, lodging, food, transport, water/ice. Bernardi confirmed that for the events in Lecco there are still several red flags as per the Master check lists and WFDF is working with TOC fixing those.

Gisel stated that WFDF really need to take responsibility for some key areas from TOCs, e.g. registration, rosters, results management, which should free up local TOCs to deal with the local logistics. Rauch added that this should be a key topic for the fall face-to-face Board meeting.

AOUC 2015 / PAUC 2015 Status Report

Bernardi reported that for AOUC 2015 WFDF still expects a bid coming from Hong Kong UPA, and perhaps also from Australia.

WU 23 2015 - update

Bernardi reported that the contract draft will be discussed with UKU after the Lecco events as Si Hill is busy as TD of WJUC and playing at WUCC.

WCBU 2015 - update

Van der Valk reported on great progress with Dubai Sports (TV). They want to cover the event live on TV and would perhaps do streaming on the web page or in-App. They need commentators. Red Bull might set up a PA-system. 48 teams are committed to participate. 40% of NFs still need to respond with numbers. The maximum figure of 52 teams will most likely be reached. Perhaps there will also be a Women Masters division. Deadline for team registration will be end of August 2014.

Purcell asked whether inclusion of Beach Ultimate into the SportAccord World Beach Games could have an impact on WCBU. Van der Valk responded that if this would have the same format as the IWGA World Games for Ultimate (6 countries, which is what we have proposed) this would not have any impact. It could even drive teams to attend WCBU if it was considered a qualification event.

Bernardi informed the Board that David Nivelles (SportAccord Multisport Games Director) will visit the WUCC on 7 August.

WUGC 2016 – process

Bernardi reported that to date WFDF has received an expression of interest from a professional event organizer from Austria but there is currently no endorsement from ÖFSV. They would need approval from WFDF by end of 2014 as they would need to start to build the fields. Also there is an expression of interest from USA but there is also no endorsement from USAU at this time.

Finance

Treasurer report

Bergeron referred to the report in the briefing book and commented on the solid cash position.

Any other business:

Bernardi asked for confirmation on the face-to-face Board meeting as prices for flights will go up. Rauch will follow up on a proposal. Bernardi reported on issues with JFDA's administration to be discussed in Lecco to find solutions.

Next Meeting

Proposed date: Late August 2014 (tbc).

Closing

The meeting closed at 16:42 CEST.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary