

Saturday, December 20, 2014

Saturday December 20th, 2014; UK, POR- 22:00; GER, SUI, SWE, RSA - 23:00; USA NY, VA, MI 17:00; USA CO, AZ 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC 14:00; Japan 07:00 (Sunday December 21st); Taiwan 06:00 (Sunday December 21st).

Board members present:

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Tomas Burvall, Patrick van der Valk, Fumio Morooka, Jamie Nuwer, Michael Hu, Kevin Givens, Steve Taylor

Vincent Gaillard present by proxy to Rauch.

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

Board members absent/excused:

Kate Bergeron, Michael Downes

Call to order (time: 23:06)

The quorum was reached with 10 votes present.

Report by the President

Rauch welcomed all participants and thanked them for participating.

Decisions between meetings

Written report provided in Briefing Book including the 2014 WFDF election results.

Minutes of meeting of November 15-16, 2014

The minutes will be presented by the Secretary by end of the year.

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

WFDF Strategic Plan 2015-2020

Rauch has circulated the strategic plan 2015-2018 which the Board had developed during the Toronto meeting in November for review and plans to have it in a presentable format. He had received some comments, largely looks good. He asked whether there are any other comments. Burvall agreed that this is a great job done by the Board. Rauch added that this was and is a tremendous effort and worked out well. Everyone feels it is good to go. Rauch reminded the Board members and staff on the tasks resulting from the plan and in particular asked those who could not attend the meeting to consider taking over tasks.

A motion was made to approve the strategic plan 2015-2018 by Gisel, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

Registration System proposal - Ultimate Central

Rauch reported that Gisel has been working with Ultimate Central on the registration system proposal made by them. Gisel added that the contract proposal is included to the briefing book with two main parts: website and registration system. The contract proposal includes development of a tournament website which means all future major WFDF event websites will have a similar look and feel. Underneath that will be a registration system for players, teams and guests that is accessed through the website.

The money will flow through WFDF rather than directly to the host running the event. The 2015 WU23 will be a pilot project and so the agreement is just for one year. If this turns out to be successful perhaps we would renew with a multi-year contract. How the payment flows in detail will be worked out together with TOC.

Woldt asked whether the total event revenue mentioned in the draft is only player and team fees or other additional costs like meal plan or accommodations. Gisel responded that this is a question of pricing. We agreed on a flat fee for the WU23 event and we can negotiate the basis of the fee if renewed.

Purcell agreed that this will be a huge step. He asked for clarification on whether this is just a flat fee for this WU23 event and we can renegotiate with UC afterwards. Gisel confirmed that we can renegotiate and have a multi-year contract possibly.

Givens asked about the development part. Gisel explained that in the contract it is mentioned that if we come up with new feature requirements, then they will charge for the additional development time but for U23 it is unlikely that new development is necessary.

Purcell asked about the timeline until getting operational. Gisel commented that even when this is not in the timeline we hope to have the website up by end of January (they have already started to work on it) with the registration system a month later and being fully live end of February.

Woldt mentioned that the timeline worries her. Gisel confirmed that this is tight, but we are not starting now from zero. It is not new for Ultimate Central as they do this type of work for many associations. Woldt still feels that not having a website until end of January and registration end of February could cause problems.

There was a motion made by Gisel to accept the Ultimate Central contract proposal, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF Sponsor and Apparel/Merchandising partner – decision

Rauch reported that WFDF has heard back from FIVE Ultimate and VC Ultimate on their proposals with improvements submitted by both firms. Both groups have agreed to give us specific assistance in re-designing logo and developing the branding. Both

have stepped up and developed proposals which meet the three different constituencies being WFDF, the event organizers and the players/teams. Accordingly, all board members felt that going with either bid would be a great benefit for the entire community, and were very comfortable with the quality, creativity and professionalism of both firms.

There was a motion made to vote on the proposals made by FIVE Ultimate and VC Ultimate. The Board approved the VC Ultimate proposal by a 7-2 majority with two members abstaining from the vote.

Anti-Doping program plan 2015 - nomination of Testing Pool

Bernardi reported on the appointment procedures for the Testing pool for 2015, which has replaced the Registered Testing Pool starting in 2015. The difference is that athletes in a RTP must provide whereabouts daily with a one-hour testing window. We are currently identifying 6 male and 3 female candidates. Today we only appoint the two representatives from Canada and the one from Germany. Others will be confirmed in an electronic vote before end of year.

There was a motion made by Givens to accept the 2015 nominations to the Testing Pool, seconded by Burvall. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chair of WFDF Doping Control Panel - proposal Jörn Verleger

Rauch informed the Board that WADA requires a hearing panel that is completely separate from WFDF. As such Bernardi said that WADA under the the new code requires we separate the Doping Control Panel chairmanship from any official WFDF function and office position. Bernardi proposed Mr. Verleger as the chair of the DCP. Mr. Verleger is a legal expert for Anti-Doping questions and has worked with the German National Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation in the past. Some Board members had met him in Lecco as well.

Purcell thanked Bernardi for his involvement and commented that the whole Anti-Doping matters were pretty painless in the past. He asked whether Bernardi would still be involved in Anti-Doping matters. Bernardi confirmed that he will continue as WFDF's Anti-Doping administrator before it comes to a case for a hearing. Purcell added that he had liked WFDF's angle of minimizing testing and focusing on education and hopes that will continue.

There was a motion made by Givens to accept the nomination of Mr. Verleger as chair of the WFDF Doping Control Panel starting from 1 January 2015, seconded by Taylor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Nominations WFDF TUE Committee - proposal

Bernardi reported that another requirement by WADA was to separate the formal Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee (TUEC) from the Medical and Anti-Doping Committee (MADC). Jascha Wiechelt from the MADDC was asked to take over the chairmanship of the TUEC as of 1 January 2015. With that decision we would be operational and can fill out the full MADDC and TUEC Committees later.

Nuwer added that it is hard to find doctors to commit time and support in Committees.

There was a motion made by Givens to formally establish a TUEC and accept the nomination of Jascha Wiechelt as chair of the TUEC starting from 1 January 2015, seconded by Taylor. The motion was approved unanimously.

WU23 2015 - update and contract draft

Bernardi reported that this contract draft is more difficult since many changes for WU23 will be implemented resulting from Lecco. The final version of the contract was developed in London during the Technical visit during the last two days. The draft is not quite ready for approval today and will be passed on for electronic vote as soon as possible.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athletes' Commission Report and Survey

Purcell reported that he has revised the survey and it would be checked by Gisel and Bernardi. He hopes to get it out before year end and have something for the next years to come. He would send a formal proposal for a coaching event at WCBU for next Board meeting.

Potential new member countries - status

Bernardi reported that several new countries are trying to attend WCBU or contacted WFDF and could be potential new WFDF members, including Egypt, Qatar, Cambodia, Ethiopia, British Virgin Islands, and Kenya. Unfortunately when we send them our application requirement they are not as quick to respond as we would hope. We will try to set up phone conferences with them. Provisional membership also requires a certain level of paper work. Currently nothing has been finalized by these countries but perhaps at next Board meeting.

Republic of Korea membership issue - update

Rauch reported that Bernardi had traveled to Korea to try to get the federations to work together under a new confederation framework WFDF proposed. The responses are enclosed as letters to the briefing book. Bernardi mentioned that these letters reflect formal responses to WFDF's proposal during meetings in Korea. On 29 November 2014 all parties came together at one table in Incheon (Seoul). The KFDF letter does not reflect the comments made by their president as they formally indicated that they were not prepared to cooperate with our incumbent member KUPA and KPDGA. We intend to continue to communicate, and perhaps invite them to our Congress in July. Rauch was disappointed by KFDF's response and directed Bernardi to send them a direct message reaffirming that their application will not be accepted by WFDF on a standalone basis. Bernardi believes that KFDF does not understand what the merger between KOC and Sports for All means for them if they

are not recognized by the IF. Korea is an important country and we will continue to try to broker a sensible resolution.

IPC recognition and follow-up

Bernardi updated the Board on the procedures to get things going with the International Paralympic Committee. We will propose a combination of Wheelchair Ultimate and Disc Golf events. USA Ultimate and the PDGA are both currently working to develop a program. The IFF (Floorball) operates very successfully with IPC and IWAS organizations. They play in same field format as we do it. We may combine events.

Development Grant Program follow-up

Bernardi reported on difficulties in wiring money to Argentina and Morocco. The Coaching program in Poland was successfully held already. From the Continental associations we will need invoices from AFDF and EFDF. From Hungary and India reports should come in by end of January.

Other Disciplines

Disc Golf (Downes)

Written report provided in Briefing Book.

Freestyle (Givens)

Written report provided in Briefing Book. There seem to be difficulties in the co-operation with FPA on the establishment of a WFDF sanctioned World Championship event.

Guts (Taylor)

Taylor reported that Ireland seems to be interested in Guts. We plan to get somebody to Europe next year. Michael Hu did a demo in Taiwan and will send an update for the next meeting.

Overall (Burvall)

Written report was provided in the Briefing Book. Burvall reported about more meetings and a reactivated committee having good discussions going on. They are working on World Records. Rob McLeod asked if there could be side events at major WFDF events, Rauch commented that if side events are arranged they must be relatively painless for TOC. They should speak with Hill for WU23 or van der Valk for Beach Ultimate. WFDF would support these side events if a proposal is brought up in time.

Ultimate Events and others

Continental 2015 (PAUC, AOUC, EUC)

Bernardi reported that the Board had agreed to sanction EUC 2015 which will take place during the IOC session in Kuala Lumpur. We agreed to cooperate with EUF. One question by EUF was whether WFDF could contribute to the production costs of the Internet live streaming for EUC. This could be discussed with board but still there is some question about how expensive it would be. We could consider doing this so we could show live pictures in Kuala Lumpur.

On AOUC 2015 we are waiting for approval of the bid by the Ultimate Committee. On PAUC we are finalizing the contract soon. Some parts of the WU23 contract changes might apply to the PAUC contract, too.

WCBU 2015 - update (van der Valk)

Van der Valk reported that TOC is extremely busy this month, They still have no information about Internet access, but everything else seems to be running well. The Insurance is also not finalized yet.

WJUC/WUGC 2016 – process and indications of interest

A final review was conducted for the bid procedures on WJUC and WUGC 2016. The London venue is quite a good venue, next to the Arsenal training ground. It is well accessible with good fields. Planning tasks are set up well and also the plans for web site. We will need to work with Si closely to ensure timely progress. If UKU were awarded the 2016 WFDF event shortly it would help him very much.

WJUC 2016: Mexico expressed an interest to bid. Alberta is unlikely to submit a bid but is interested to bid for another event in the future.

WUGC 2016 proposed a date change. June is unusually early for that event and we do need to discuss that. Rauch commented that for some in the US it might be good to have it earlier.

WOC 2015 and World Freestyle Championship 2015

Burvall reported that the preparations are running well.

World Disc Golf Championship 2015/16

Downes indicated that it is likely that the first jointly hosted World Championship would be pushed to 2016. At the request of Rauch, he agreed to look into having some form of test event in 2015 at an established event.

World Indoor Ultimate Championship 2016

Rauch reported that the Indoor task force is a bit dormant but we will give them a task to plan the first World Indoor Ultimate Championship for January or February 2017.

World Games 2017

Bernardi reported about a Press release from last week where IWGA advised about the date change for the 2017 World Games to be hosted two weeks earlier from 20-30 July 2017 due to a conflict with the IAAF world championship in London. Moro attended the first competition Manager meeting with Bernardi and Michal Dul. Our venue is quite disappointing in terms of fields and infrastructure. We complained to IWGA to try to get the Olympic stadium. American Football (which is only an invitational sport) was designated to play in that stadium as according to a survey conducted in Wroclaw city more people wanted to go to American Football than to Ultimate. We are now in discussions with IWGA. Morooka added that there will be an IWGA ExCom meeting on 21/22 January 2015 in Lausanne where the host city for 2021 will be decided in January, selecting between Birmingham (USA), Ufa (Russia) and Lima (Peru).

Finance

Treasurer report

Rauch informed that WFDF is US\$37,000 below budget as the IOC grant for 2014 has not yet been paid (US\$ 25,000) and is expected by 23 December 2014. If all sanctioning fees had been paid by the Lecco organizing committee we would have been ahead of budget. But we are not clear that we will receive the remaining fees due to the financial issues the group experienced.

Other business

Burvall asked for a long term call for a WOC 2017 bid. Woldt mentioned that this has to be in early January.

Rauch added that WFDF is looking for someone to come in on Media and communications for WFDF. If members know someone, please let us know.

Morooka asked about the Congress venue for 2015 and it was confirmed that this would be held in London on the occasion of WU23 on Saturday before the event starts on Sunday.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was proposed for 31 January 2015.

Closing

Rauch thanked everyone for their hard work in 2015. The strategic plan looks very good and successful. Rauch thanked everyone for his/her dedication to the sport.

The meeting closed at 01:30 CEST.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary