
Sunday, November 15, 2015

Sunday November 15th, 2015; UK, POR- 14:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 15:00; RSA- 16:00; USA NY, VA, MI- 09:00; USA CO, AZ- 07:00; USA CA, CAN BC- 06:00; JPN- 23:00; TPE- 22:00.

Board members present:

Robert “Nob” Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Tomas Burvall, Michael Downes, Kevin Givens (by proxy to Griesbaum), Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Jamie Nuwer, Ryan Purcell.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, Executive Director (non-voting), Karina Woldt, Event Manager (non-voting), Rob McLeod, Director of Global Communications and New Media (non-voting) and as guest for presenting the Sponsoring Consultant contract Tim Rockwood.

Board members absent/excused:

Steve Taylor, Vincent Gaillard.

Call to order (time: 15:06)

The quorum was reached with 12 votes, with 8/14 needed.

Report by the President

Rauch welcomed the participants and thanked all for their participation.

Decisions between meetings

The votes 2015.5-8 have been approved by the WFDF Congress dealing with the membership proposals of MFDA (Malaysia - upgrade to regular membership) and the new membership proposals from GZFA (Guam) and MFDA (Morocco) as well as the approval of the 2015 Congress Minutes. The Congress unanimously approved of all proposals with the respective majority needed and the votes formally are closing on 15 November 2015.

Minutes of 3 October 2015 meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Purcell, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously with 1 abstention.

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

Brand Valuation RFP and Sponsoring consultant contract

Rauch reported about his discussions with Tim Rockwood about consulting with regard to sponsorship and broadcast opportunities. Rockwood explained that he aims to accelerate and amplify the work which has been done to date. He has watched sports gain Olympic status over the past years. He had played in 1977 against Nob at Williams and continued with Earth Ultimate. He retired because he was selected as Olympic researcher for Sarajevo. Put Ultimate in 1985 on national TV and in 1987 started to work in the Executive Management. In the last 10 years he did long format documentaries. Patrick King put him in contact with people doing Flatball and he volunteered for that. This opened doors and he got reintroduced

to Nob through this. He has studied the WFDF web site and then spoke with Edwin Moses, the Chairman of Laureates Sports asking Edwin if it is viable. They confirmed that there are great demographics and they were surprised at the breadth and scope of the NGBs worldwide.

Purcell asked about Rockwood's plans for the next four months. Rockwood explained that he got in last week and he needed to do a quick SWOT analysis of collateral materials as he has not seen yet like materials on WUGC 2012 in Japan. He needed to know more about what WFDF has been doing. Strategically he wanted to use WUGC 2016 and the 2017 ANOC World Beach Games to build up a lot of good will. Having people saying good things about WFDF is great (and important). Rockwood wanted the respective leaders to tell if it is realistic that NBC would provide coverage. He assumed that some US\$ 75,000 in sponsorship funds would be needed for a proper coverage of WUGC 2016. He felt that an anchor broadcaster would secure the rights for the US market and WFDF could have these for rest of the world. Rauch added that in the end WFDF has to get these overtures out quickly or it would be too late for WUGC in June 2016.

Van der Valk asked about the exclusivity of the consultancy contract. If somebody else has contacts with large networks like ESPN can WFDF have several agreements? Rauch responded that for June 2016 WFDF is late anyways and he does not see any sense for many people now trying to knock on the doors of the networks for WUGC 2016. WFDF needs focus for this process to have a chance. So far nobody has raised hands and said they can get it done, and this needs to be done professionally. WFDF will know if it is working within three months. Rauch insisted that any inquiry would be directed through Rockwood, who confirmed that it is very important that WFDF is speaking with one voice.

Nuwer mentioned that USAU has a contract with ESPN and asked about potential conflicts. Rockwood was not aware of such a contract and he needed to look at it. Rauch mentioned that this is a contract solely with USAU. Rauch has had preliminary discussions with ESPN but that is not an agreement that would impact WFDF's events. WFDF using another network might even give USAU a stronger stand here. Rockwood asked about the relationship between WFDF and USAU and Rauch confirmed that USAU is a WFDF member and there is a great relationship.

Gisel asked whether WFDF will still move forward with the proposals received in response to the RFP for streaming games at WUGC 2016 in London. Rauch acknowledged that streaming arrangement have worked out well in the past but felt we should defer to give this next stage a chance. The decision was made to delay the review until January or mid-February once it is clear whether the funding will likely be raised for a full-on broadcast in some form.

Burvall asked whether all discussions only relate to Ultimate or whether other Flying Disc sports are concerned like Disc Golf or Freestyle. Rauch suggested that WFDF needed to do this one step at a time. The sponsors and broadcasters will determine what they want. In the 1970s there was a lot of interest in Freestyle, for example. There was a question of whether there would be a continuing role for specialized disc oriented production teams. Rauch mentioned that it was likely to be some sort of hybrid model, as professional producers need to get help from experienced people coming from inside of the sport. Rockwood explained that the crew should likely be local and that key people with disc experience be brought in from outside. McLeod added that one big difference in the proposals which were received is the number of cameras. Rockwood mentioned that the Manila coverage had too few cameras and one would need at least five cameras for a network broadcast. He asked whether Open,

women and mixed are on the same day on the same field as that would save a lot of money for network. McLeod confirmed that that is how it was in London.

Rauch thanked Rockwood for the presentation. Gisel asked whether Rockwood`s pay would be a commission. Rauch explained that WFDF has structured it with US\$ 2,500 USD per month for up to four months as a draw against commission.

A motion was made to approve of the consultancy agreement by Rauch, seconded by Nuwer. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.

Egypt membership proposal (EUPA)

Bernardi reported that the first contact with EUPA was made when they approached WFDF at the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Tournament in Cairo where teams from Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and UAE participated. EUPA subsequently has sent in the materials including a separate file with a member list and a photo file. Following our changed policy for new members which is more focused on reported playing activity rather than the formality of documents, which sometimes are nearly impossible to get (ie EUPA has not formally received the stamp from the government despite ongoing efforts), Bernardi confirmed that according to our membership criteria that EUPA meets all criteria.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal to send the membership proposal from EUPA to Congress for a vote by Griesbaum, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF Communication Strategy

Rauch welcomed Rob McLeod who has been appointed Director of Communication and Global Media recently. McLeod reported that he had written up a strategy in August and has slowly been taking over activities from Rauch. In particular he wants to help promote the sports besides Ultimate, like Disc Golf, Overall, Freestyle, which sometimes receive less attention, and confirms that he is active in all disc sports. His present plan is detailed but he knows there is still much to learn and to adapt.

Van der Valk asked whether people should go straight to McLeod when they wanted to share content and publish or still through Rauch and Bernardi. Rauch responded that it depends on the content. If WFDF policies are concerned we would use more formal channels and go through Rauch and Bernardi. Cool stuff like “How to’s” don’t need to. McLeod mentioned that this also depends on the channels as on Twitter you can post many things directly.

Rauch welcomed McLeod again and expects to be a regular attendee at Board meetings going forward.

TV/Broadcast RFP procedure - report and decision

As discussed earlier in the meeting, Rauch proposed to move the decision to January/February and asked McLeod to give a quick overview of the proposals and compare them. McLeod reported that there were three proposals which had been sent to WFDF made by Skyd, Ditch and ELISA. The proposals from Skyd is the longest and well thought out with plans for the far future, but also very expensive. Ditch did not ask WFDF for exclusive rights ELISA wanted to

have locals come in for the production and exclusive rights but wanted to pay for the production. There is no clear winner but all wanted to hear back very soon and it may be hard for them to be told of the delay.

Rauch added that it may be that WFDF will have to bring in someone to do the on-site production in any case. Even if WFDF would have success with Rockwood`s efforts to find a Broadcaster there are some of the elements from Skyd like highlight reels that need to be discussed with this Broadcaster. It will become a far bigger thing than contemplated in the past. The 2015 WCBU has started to scratch what can be done and how to do it properly in terms of someone directing the crew to be sure that we get exactly what we need.

Rauch asked the Board whether they are comfortable with letting the bidders know that WFDF will move the decision and the Board confirmed that unanimously.

WFDF event cycle

Gisel reported that the schedule on page 70 of the briefing book is triggered by the addition of the ANOC World Beach Games 2017 to the WFDF event portfolio. Rauch explained that ANOC is the Association of National Olympic Committees, and they will be staging the first edition of the World Beach Games in late September 2017 in San Diego (USA). The beta page of the event -- used in their pitch -- shows Beach Ultimate as part of the program but that this is not confirmed yet officially by ANOC. Bernardi reported that he spoke with ANOC President Al-Sabah in Lausanne who was very well informed about WFDF Beach Ultimate as a sport and the IOC recognition for WFDF. The sports on the San Diego website are clearly the preference of the city of San Diego but ANOC is still in the process of finalizing the program.

Gisel mentioned that while WFDF can be happy about that development it creates an issue with the WCBU planned for 2017. He had thought about proposing to move WCBU as currently it cannot serve as a qualifier for the World Beach Games because it would be staged too late before the World Beach Games and this also would be expensive for the players. Some players were also surprised that there would be a WCBU in 2017.

Van der Valk added that the change was asked for by Simon Hill and announced in the player surveys. For the ANOC World Beach Games the players will only need to pay for flights and that is for 80 players. Changing the WCBU 2017 date for just 80 players would be a huge thing compared to potentially 1,500 players at a WCBU in Europe. Having WCBU in May or June 2017 could work out as a very good qualifier. Rauch disagreed that having a same year event be the qualifier due to logistics as one cannot have the WCBU event in June and have a country surprisingly qualifying for World Beach Games and find out they need to plan for such an event in September. Van der Valk disagreed, stating this should be possible. Rauch added that WFDF needs to discuss if one could have the WCBU in 2017. If we know we will be part of the ANOC World Beach Games and they will become important in the future WFDF should try not having WCBU in the same year as the World Beach Games.

Bernardi added that the 2017 edition of the ANOC World Beach Games will be our biggest showcase before 2024 in the USA together with the 2021 IWGA World Games in Birmingham. WFDF must make sure that the best players play in these events. On logistics he mentioned that if ANOC has a similar deadline as the World Games for announcing the qualifying teams this would be nine months in advance. Gisel agreed that WCBU 2017 cannot be the qualifier for the 2017 World Beach Games. Woldt asked whether the period for potential dates for the

2017 WCBU in bids should be changed from the end of 2017 to June 2017 and that was confirmed by van der Valk. Rauch mentioned that the month in which the ANOC event will be held in the future is not fixed.

Van der Valk proposed to use Beach Ultimate Continental championship as qualifiers as well or whether it would be fine to propose WCBU 2015 as qualification for the World Beach Games in 2017. Purcell added that announcing qualification criteria retroactively would be a problem and WFDF would have to explain well. Rauch added that if WFDF gets invited one would have to announce the participating countries to ANOC well in advance of the event. The member associations concerned would be selecting their teams in the way they see fit. The discussion concluded by stating that WFDF will try to find out more details on the event in December.

WFDF-BULA Memorandum of Understanding / Tripartite Agreement

Rauch reported that several steps of refinement were taken during the negotiations between WFDF and BULA on the joint MOU and he believes that Patrick and he have negotiated a solid agreement that will benefit the community.

Van der Valk added that the Deputy Chairman of the Beach Ultimate committee is José Pirès who is supported by the French Association. The other Beach Ultimate Committee members have been approved by the Board. It was a long negotiation but he was pleased with the present agreement for WFDF and BULA.

Bernardi reiterated that the clause “drug testing must be avoided at all costs” does not rule out anti-doping tests completely as for the participation of Beach Ultimate at World Beach Games level WADA might request to include athletes from Beach Ultimate in the Testing Pool. That does not refer directly to World Championships or World Beach Games for WFDF as Testing authority but WFDF could be asked to show testing activities related to the Flying Disc sport of Beach Ultimate. In particular ANOC might ask us to show testing activities, but this would be a matter to be discussed with WADA.

A motion was made to approve of the Memorandum of Understanding between WFDF and BULA and the Tripartite agreement by Purcell, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.

2016 Anti-Doping Testing Pool and Test Distribution Plan

Bernardi reported that WFDF was asked to consider increasing testing activities for 2016 but as Flying Disc is a low risk sport that was avoided. On the Anti-Doping education Tool “Real Winner” which was planned to be used in 2016, too, Bernardi advised that the service contract of the company with Sport Accord was cancelled. WFDF is in contact with the owners to renew an agreement but there is a new version and we still do not know the costs.

A motion was made to approve of the 2016 Testing Pool composition criteria and the Test distribution plan by Burvall, seconded by Purcell. The motion was unanimously approved with one abstention.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athlete`s Commission Report

Purcell reported about some internal communication problems within the Commission which he aims to solve soon.

Potential new member countries - status

Bernardi reported that after the Congress has approved the membership proposals made by Morocco and Guam the WFDF membership counts 67 member associations in 64 countries. Egypt would be country number 65 if approved by Congress. Next hopefuls are Uruguay as they are going to attend PAUC in Mexico and will send membership materials by the beginning of 2016.

Bernardi informed the Board that CALD (Czech Republic) was recognized by the Czech Olympic Committee last week and that WFDF continues working with member associations to obtain NOC recognition.

FISU

Bernardi reported that FISU has acknowledged receipt of the complete application dossier sent by WFDF for recognition as a FISU recognised sport. WFDF will be invited to present its proposal for a World University Championships to the FISU Executive Committee on 18/19 February 2016 and requested the presence of WFDF President and Ultimate Chair for that meeting.

SOTG Day 2015

Van der Valk reported on the SOTG Day 2015 which was launched last week. They came up with new icons for SOTG which were developed by a charity called E.R.I.C. This is not a WFDF initiative but he got WFDF to promote it. The campaign sets out promoting SOTG in the daily life.

Other Disciplines

Disc Golf incl. TDGWC update

Rauch reported that there was an issue with PDGA who had sent a draft Memorandum of Understanding to WFDF member associations without even informing WFDF about that step. He got back to Downes about the wording of this MoU and much more communication will be needed to solve the matter.

Freestyle

There was no new report on Freestyle.

Guts

There was no new report on Guts.

Overall

Burvall reported that the bidding process for a WFOC is getting finalized. He needs to get approval from Norway. Woldt added that she had received feedback from Givens and incorporated into the document to get it more FPA friendly.

Burvall reported on the initiative to support refugee camps with a donation and get a disc shipped when US\$ 25 are donated. There are still a number of issues to be sorted out.

Ultimate Events and others

Continental 2015 (PAUC, AOUC, AOGCC)

Gisel reported that the TOC of the PAUC in Mexico has encountered serious problems with the field size as this was not measured correctly. The Ultimate Committee has finalized the rework of the event schedule and he hopes that the new schedule will mitigate complaints which WFDF has already received. The preparations of AOUC are going ahead and WFDF can expect a good participation from teams and countries.

Woldt reported about the problems to get the discs and merchandise through customs in Mexico. There was no shipping delay but the materials are being held by customs in Mexico. VC Ultimate and TOC are working on the problem but this is a serious issue.

Bernardi added that in general TOC in Mexico has not done so much to respect the event agreement and contract as they signed contracts with Ultiphotos and Skyd without informing WFDF, which holds the rights. In the future, with WFDF being responsible for all these areas, there must be more control of event and we need to budget a Technical Advisor on-site, too. Gisel agreed with this comment.

On the coaching clinics, Woldt reported that in Uganda at AAUCC there were 50 - 60 people participating and WFDF sent Liam Kelly who worked with six coaches from the USA. Five African nations attended and the clinic can be considered a success. The Pan American clinic at the start of PAUC starts on next Monday. There is a wait list as too many interested people were registered. For Hong Kong RISE UP has partnered with WFDF to work together in hosting two clinics. There will be 40 participants on the first day and 50 for the next day. Gisel added that the coaching clinics were brought to light at WU23. From that time to now the success of those is amazing and a result of the hard work done by Woldt and others. This is a great success in such a short time.

Rauch asked Woldt to pull together reports to be published on the website. This means being responsive to the number one matter people were looking for from WFDF and it is great to identify a need and really fulfill it.

Rauch asked about highlights from 2015 past events. Woldt confirmed that EUC was very detailed around Ultimate Central and we need to pull out information and put pressure on UC to get a product we can really use. Furlan did a good job to test UC thoroughly. In Uganda the

fact that it was a WFDF event made a huge difference for Sponsors and for other Associations as the WFDF brand brings with it a strong message and gives Continentals a lot of credibility.

WUGC 2016 - report

Woldt reported that today WFDF is launching registration for London and delayed registration for WJUC for a few days. A very busy six months are coming up for both events. Gisel added that the feedback for WUGC is quite strong. It will be interesting to see how many teams eventually sign up.

WJUC 2016 - discussions with EUF on EYUC in Wroclaw

Gisel reported on the discussions with EUF who want to hold EYUC at the same time in the same city (Wroclaw) like WJUC 2016. The WFDF Youth Commission has reported about the case and made a recommendation.

The Board's opinion was that the proposal to hold the two events together at the same time in different venues in the same city should be rejected.

World Games 2017

Bernardi reported on the latest developments after he had met with IWGA CEO Joachim Gossow. IWGA will slightly increase the WFDF IF passport from 15 to 16 officials due to the fact that WFDF will have Game Advisors in Wroclaw. Morooka was able to conduct a second visit to the proposed venue and had confirmed that the venue is now acceptable. WOC has also confirmed that the modern infrastructure building can be used instead of tents as initially planned. The venue has a seating capacity of 8,000 seats and the surface is in good condition.

Finance

Treasurer report and update on audit

Bergeron reported that WFDF holds more reserves than expected in an odd-numbered year. The Form 990 was filed with IRS, the US tax authority. The 2014 audit is expected soon. Rauch added that once the audit is ready it will be sent to Congress for approval, hopefully before end of year.

Other business

Rauch advised the Board that the WFDF Youth and Sports Commission chair Dan Tapuach is proposing a change to the composition of the Commissions as follows:

New additions to the Commission:

1. Liam Kelly (GBR)
2. Ted Beute (NED)

To be taken off the Commission:

1. Nelli Andersson (SWE)
2. Eric Delafortrie (BEL)

3. Fumio Morooka (JPN)
4. Dominick Smyth (IRL)

A motion was made to approve of the new composition by Rauch, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is proposed for mid-December 12 or 13.

Closing: 17:33 h

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary.