

Sunday, May 22, 2016

Sunday May 22nd, 2016; UK, POR- 14:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 15:00; RSA- 15:00; QAT- 16:00; USA NY, VA, MI- 09:00; USA CO, AZ- 07:00; USA CA, CAN BC- 06:00; JPN- 22:00; TPE- 21:00.

Board members present:

Robert “Nob” Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Charlie Mead, Steve Taylor, Tomas Burvall, Fumio Morooka, Caroline “Caz” Malone, Ryan Purcell, Kevin Givens (by proxy)

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, Executive Director (non-voting), Tim Rockwood, Managing Director of Broadcasting and Marketing (non-voting).

Board members absent/excused:

Jamie Nuwer, Michael Hu

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. With one month to go to Congress several important topics are to be discussed by the Board.

Decisions between meetings

None.

Minutes of 17 April 2016 meeting

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

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

WMUCC 2018 - approval of host

Gisel reported that the Ultimate Committee currently is evaluating the bid from Winnipeg (Canada) and has not come to a final conclusion yet. This was the only bid that was received, but fortunately the bid overall looks strong with experienced hosts and a huge Ultimate population. As a smaller big city there will be no large expense problems. Still the applicants show significant revenue from marketing and non-player fees which is great but one must ask how solid is the money coming in through sponsorships and ticket sales.

Will Deaver from USAU has outlined a timing problem as the event is planned for the period prior or during to the USAU Masters Series finals, which covers a 5-6 week window in which the event will clash with other events. It is proposed to have a maximum number of teams allowed per country and with 3-4 teams from USA and Canada the event can be quite large even if certain teams cannot come due to event overlap. Gisel does not believe that the Ultimate community will have a problem.

Rauch suggested the Board give conditional approval as long as the Ultimate Committee gives its subsequent approval in the next couple weeks. Van der Valk asked whether the

Events Sub-Committee should approve rather than the Ultimate Committee.

Gisel mentioned that usually the Events Sub-Committee makes recommendations to Ultimate Committee and this recommends to the Board but he felt that the Events Sub-Committee is fully busy due to upcoming bids as are WUCC and WJUC for 2018. Gisel had sent the bid to the Ultimate Committee a week ago but they did not have time to read document fully. Gisel confirmed that the bid does not have a formal recommendation by the Events Sub-Committee. Bernardi requested that the Events Sub-Committee be given the opportunity to comment on the bid. Rauch added that the Ultimate Committee should evaluate the key aspects of the bid and give just these two or three to the Events Sub-Committee for comments.

Gisel confirmed that as there are no formal accommodation packages and that the teams would make arrangements directly with tournament hotels. Rauch asked on how difficult it is to travel to Winnipeg. Gisel reported that it is the largest city in central Canada and there are direct flights from the U.S. and from elsewhere there is probably one Hub airport to be used. Rauch requested to try dates which also could be feasible for families and friends of players. With the Masters division being the strongest in North America it might dilute the quality of Masters' events and/or WFDF events. Mead added a European perspective outlining that if he would take the family he would not come in June but in the last two weeks in July and August. Bernardi mentioned that finals are going to be played on artificial turf and asked about the certificate of quality of the turf. Gisel will ask for the certificate. The TOC is looking to get broadcasting and that is easier in a large stadium, and he commented that the price for renting the big stadium is worked into budget.

Mead confirmed that it is a great bid. The turf is in a new stadium and therefore likely has G4 turf, which makes it quite suitable. Rauch mentioned that even with 10,000 to 15,000 spectators would be great. Bernardi highlighted that the bid presentation was highly professional. Gisel reported that the bidders from Winnipeg are sending a representative to WUGC which is very positive.

A motion was made to approve of the bid from Winnipeg bid conditional to Ultimate Committee approval by Purcell, seconded by Mead. The motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF WFOC 2017 - approval of host

Burvall reported about the bids for the event and underlined that any vote on a bid would be conditional on the approval by the Freestyle Committee, although it had already had the recommendation of the Overall Committee. He proposed the bid from Basingstroke (GBR). It is a very good bid coming from a very enthusiastic crew providing all facilities on one site and causing no need for transport within a venue. Potential problems could be the dates, the high fees and the quality of the disc golf baskets. They will look into the dates and are willing to ask for lower fees and also will get better baskets. Other bids were sent in from Chinese Taipei, Michigan (USA) and Bridgeport (USA). Mead added that Basingstroke will need supervision as they have not run an Overall event before. At a WOC, scheduling and keeping up on scoring are the two biggest challenges.

Rauch explained that WFOC is a dual event adding WFC and WOC, similar to WUGC with Ultimate and Guts. The Freestyle event will be recognized as the Freestyle World Championships. Bernardi added that it is important to have the name "Freestyle" in the event name.

Rauch proposed a provisional recommendation subject to final approval of the dates to be coordinated by Burvall and Mead and the Freestyle Committee to be involved in the final

decisions.

A motion was made to approve of the bid conditional to Freestyle Committee approval by Mead, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention.

Athlete's Commission - approval of member

Purcell reported that Gwen Ambler (USA) has resigned from the Athletes' Commission and the remaining members propose her to be replaced by candidate Veronique Riopel from Canada to serve the remainder of the term until 2018.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal by Rauch, seconded by Purcell. The motion was approved unanimously.

SOTG Sub-Committee - approval of member

Rauch informed the Board that Marlise Richter (RSA) and Oscar Fletcher (COL) are proposed as new members of the SOTG Sub-Committee.

A motion was made to approve of the nomination of Marlise Richter by van der Valk, seconded by Purcell. The proposal was approved with one abstention.

A motion was made to approve of the nomination of Oscar Fletcher by van der Valk, seconded by Griesbaum. The proposal was approved unanimously.

Membership Mexico - approval of AJUM as WFDF member

Bernardi reported that, after several years and significant negotiations mediated by WFDF, the long story about the WFDF member in Mexico is coming to an end. There were three associations which claimed to represent Mexican Ultimate players and all three have now agreed to consolidate under AJUM. AJUM has now finally provided all documents WFDF had asked for and the change is recommended for approval by the Board to get final Congress approval.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal to pass the membership change for Mexico to Congress for final approval by Gisel, seconded by Burvall. The proposal was approved unanimously.

WFDF transgender policy

Rauch presented the proposal for a WFDF Transgender Policy. Nuwer had developed the draft after review of the IOC policy framework as well as USAU and gymnastics policy. After several questions came up, he proposed that these be sent to the Medical and Anti-Doping Committee and discussed and that the next draft be reviewed at the next board meeting.

WFDF Disc Golf - strategy/Committee members' identification

Mead reported that he has received all nominations from member associations and individuals. Mead had decided with Board approval to consult with everybody who has been recommended for the Committee to set up a plan for Disc Golf within WFDF after consultation. The most interesting ideas were from Brian Hoeniger and Mead would like to work with the nominees before making recommendations for a Committee and put together thoughts and ideas by Congress, then open for discussion and look to finalize the Committee after Congress.

Broadcast/Video Production Plan

Rockwood reported that the WUGC 2016 production will feature free global streaming of 20+ games, including Guts coverage, and a telecast of two hours (88 minutes of content) of the Mixed Finals, with highlights of Open and Women's. The week long online coverage will be on <http://livestream.com> and <http://wfdf.org/live> and archived on YouTube. The two-hour telecast airs twice in North America on CBS Sports Network, and outlets in other countries are being actively pursued, with interest currently in France, Germany, Finland and Malaysia.

WFDF Advisory Board

Rauch explained that WFDF needs to take a look at its Board level governance. He proposed to do a review of how the boards of other IFs are structured and consider that in the context of what WFDF is doing. WFDF needs to decide whether it wants to continue to be functionally managed mainly by our Disc Sport chairs from within our community or whether it should shift the focus to more of a strategic and business-oriented approach at the board level.

As this process will take some time Rauch proposed to set up an Advisory Council as an interim solution including Vincent Gaillard as chair and Christian Wassmer and Peter Bayer as initial members. WFDF should be trying to respond to the fact that we are getting more complex. Many issues are less disc sports related but sports related like getting sponsors or additional resources for the sport. That skill does not exist within our board.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal by Purcell, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF 2016 Congress agenda and briefing book

Rauch asked that Board members inform him if anything else needed to be included in the briefing book.

Americas Masters Games - Vancouver

Gisel will have a meeting with the local organizing committee (LOC) of the Americas Masters Games in Vancouver this week. The AMG is interested to have us demonstrate our sport. LOC will give WFDF a special rate for our athletes to attend. Gisel will report further after the meeting with LOC on possibilities to get a lower price.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athlete's Commission Report

Purcell asked for support from Board members to find suitable nominations for the Commission elections in London.

Census process update/membership dues invoices

The topic was tabled.

Report SportAccord convention and meetings

Bernardi reported about the SportAccord convention where a new President of SportAccord was elected, Patrick Baumann (SUI).

During the International Masters Games Association General Assembly WFDF was approved as an IMGA associate member. There were also meetings with IWGA, WADA, FISU and ARISF. The WFDF delegation met with the new Head of Stakeholder relations in the IOC Sport Department Jenny Mann.

Disc Sport Reports

Guts

Taylor referenced his written report.

Freestyle

Givens reported that the Freestyle Hall of Fame has been set up.

Beach Ultimate

Van der Valk reported about a change of women's masters age in Beach Ultimate being discussed within the Beach Ultimate Committee suggesting that the women's age be moved to 33 as it is for Mixed Masters. Rauch asked this be coordinated with grass Ultimate ages, given the overlap between the disciplines.

Championship Events and others

WUGC 2016 - report

Gisel reported that the 2016 event preparations are going well and they are finalizing the schedule for WUGC which will be published soon.

WJUC 2016 - report

Gisel mentioned that there will be a higher number of teams than had been previously feared (48). The event is looking like it will be well-run as well.

World Games - Venue Change

Bernardi reported about the meetings with IWGA and World Games Organizing Committee 2017 in Lausanne. A new venue proposal was made by WGOC. The event would be held on turf but the venue is in the middle of many other World Games activities. Many people will be there for other sports.

Rauch motioned to formally approve of the venue proposal if WFDF requirements can be met by WGOC, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Finance

Treasurer report

Bergeron reported about open receivables from 2015 which will be checked by Bernardi and about the request to add a special budget for SOTG projects. Van der Valk added that every few years SOTG will have a project to improve SOTG. Rauch asked that before having a separate item we need to know what type of projects that would be. The 5-year projection is prepared for context to understand our medium term financial outlook given our quadrennial event cycle as opposed to being a budget.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is proposed for June 11 or 12.

Closing: 17:32 h

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary