

**Saturday September 10, 2016;** UK, POR- 22:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 23:00; RSA- 23:00, QAT- 00:00 (September 11<sup>th</sup>); BRA 18:00, USA NY, VA, MI 17:00; USA CO, AZ 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC 14:00; Japan 06:00 (September 11<sup>th</sup>); Taiwan 05:00 (September 11<sup>th</sup>).

# **Board members present:**

Nob Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Tomas Burvall, Steve Taylor, Caroline Malone, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, (Executive Director, non-voting), Karina Woldt (Event Manager, non-voting), Tim Rockwood

#### Board members absent/excused:

Kevin Givens, Charlie Mead, Ryan Purcell, Jamie Nuwer

### **Call to order (23:03)**

The quorum was reached with 10 votes of 8/14 needed.

### Report by the President

Rauch welcomed everybody and thanked all for participating.

## **Decisions between meetings**

None.

#### Minutes of meeting of 30 July 2016 meeting

A motion was made to approve of the minutes by van der Valk, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

### Commercial and Broadcast plans for 2016-2017

Rauch reported that Rockwood has provided the streaming data from livestream.com for WUGC 2016 and these show that WFDF is still on a learning curve. Looking forward to WCBU 2017 which WFDF will need to plan for and at least do a streaming arrangement. The problem here is the funding, as in 2016 WFDF did not obtain any funding from outside the community. Rockwood has submitted his thoughts how to pursue the topic with more time at hand and outlined that Sports marketing companies out there might be helpful. Rauch asked the Board for ideas and thoughts and announced to have a meeting of the WFDF Advisory Council to get their input. Van der Valk asked to be involved in the conversations. Rauch confirmed that he would involve any Board member interested on the call.

Gisel asked to make sure WFDF understands what the Broadcast efforts are needed for. On the streaming, WFDF knows what needs to be done and how to reach our endemic community. On TV Broadcast WFDF is well behind plan and would not be able to do a project as we did at WUGC 2016 again without a major sponsor. He is looking forward to what the members of the Advisory Council might say here. Rauch commented that WFDF has a legit chance to be considered for the Olympic Games additional events in 2024 but feels that we must demonstrate that there is a capability to get visibility with a broader audience.



Rockwood underlined that TV Broadcast is still the ultimate legitimizer and all emerging sports are pursuing this. The key is to monetize the streaming viewers and WFDF needs a long term plan. USAU, the two pro leagues, WFDF and the Beach community need to coordinate their efforts for 2017 and 2018. If different people from the same sport knock on the same doors for sponsorship, is the overlap causes negative effects for each of the parties. WFDF and NGBs should work together.

Malone asked whether there is room for international broadcasting via e.g. Turkish sports broadcasters. She also inquired where WFDF stands with regard to the new platform created by the IOC, its Olympic Channel. Rockwood responded that he spoke with One World Sports and that the Olympic channel is a viable project for sports included in the system. Bernardi confirmed that WFDF could be included in the Olympic Channel as long as there would be a certain level of Broadcast quality. The Channel was opened during the Rio 2016 Olympic Games and WFDF could establish the working relations immediately after the Paralympic Games. All Flying Disc sports could be included to the OC footage if there is a guaranteed quality of the images.

## RFPs for disc and apparel partners

Rauch reported that WFDF has contracts with VC Ultimate (Merchandise and Apparel) and Discraft (Discs) which terminate at year end and WFDF is seeking to start a new proposal process shortly. Gisel added that when contracting a partner for apparel two years ago WFDF was thinking about a 4-year cycle. Van der Valk questioned whether the extra income with 4- year contracts would be significant as it sounds long to have just one company with a contract.

The disc RFP only includes Ultimate discs and Woldt was asked to reach out to the designated RFP recipients to find out if they want to bid for just Ultimate or also for other events. It was agreed that the Merchandise RFP would ask for proposals for both a 2 or 4 year package.

Bergeron asked that WFDF should be more explicit if there is a need to include more development project support like shipping costs for discs as part of the Sponsorship.

Rauch asked the Board members to send any comments to him by e-mail and stated that the RPFs would go out in the next 10 days.

# 2014 Olympic Games strategy incl. Report Rio 2016 OG

Bernardi reported about his meetings from the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. He attended the IOC Session where five new sports were approved as additional events for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games program, which represents inclusion only for that very edition of the Games. The host of the 2024 Olympic Games will be decided at the 2017 IOC Session in Lima in September 2017. The main message from the meetings is that Flying Disc stands a chance to be included to the 2024 Games as an additional event as per the values added by WFDF to the program as per the Olympic Agenda 2020. Rauch asked that the Board members work through the report and proposal and comment to him.

# World Games 2017 - preparations update including venue proposal

Bernardi referenced the written venue proposal submitted by WOC and reported that these final documents on the new venue proposal were presented by WOC to WFDF on the  $2^{nd}$  Competition Managers meeting at the end of August in Wroclaw. The new venue only provides for a maximum number of 2,300 - 3,000 spectators. As WFDF is the last sport not



having approved of the venue and as there are no more alternate proposals, Bernardi asked the Board for formal approval to sign the IF passport including this venue proposal.

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

## **Game Advisor program and training**

Gisel reported that with the World Championships 2018 in the USA, WFDF would need to look at a training schedule for Game Advisors and asked how much a training budget for 2017 could be. The Treasurer responded that she needed to check the budget for possibilities. Rauch commented that with USAU certified Observers who can make the transition, WFDF will not need that much training of Game Advisors, but there will be costs involved that we will need to fund. Also WFDF would need to decide on if WFDF will cover the full costs for Game Advisors like training, travel, accommodation etc.) or begin to incorporate these in tournament costs. Rauch added that 2017 is a tight year with regard to WFDF's budget.

## 2016 Development Program - Update

Bernardi presented the written proposal sent by AFDF on how the development project budget should be spent. The final allocations are expected to amount to US\$ 6,000. Malone added that AFDF is trying to promote better coaching in Asia and that teaching coaches makes better coaches. She has worked in consultation with the top coaches of each Asian country and has looked at a number of coaches resulting in a proposal to hire a coach from UK. The coaches' activities would be recorded on video to share with other Asian countries. The framework itself could be very useful and WFDF could set up a WFDF approved coaching certificate. Bergeron asked to make sure with proactive efforts that a certain percentage of women participate. Malone confirmed that there are not yet detailed goals in terms of numbers, but some countries already said they want this system to reach more women and minorities and also be used to bring Ultimate to schools. Rauch asked Woldt to follow up and work with Malone and Gisel to make sure a certification is issued for participants. Van der Valk added that SOTG should be a big part. Malone confirmed that this would be in the curriculum.

Gisel confirmed that there are no concerns from the WFDF Sport for All / Development Commission side.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal with the idea that the final budget is US\$ 6,000 by Givens, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

# **Continental Associations situation**

Bernardi reported that EFDF should proceed now with a proposal for Ultimate to participate in the next edition of the 2019 European Games. He informed the Board on the appointment of Caroline Malone as AFDF Deputy Secretary General.

## **Termination of Ultimate Central contract**

Gisel reported that WFDF had signed a 3-year agreement with an opt-out clause to be triggered by December 2016 if WFDF wanted to end the contract earlier. Despite many attempts by TOC at WUGC 2016 to get score reporting and scheduling to work, WFDF again had to use UltiOrganizer. UC also could not be used for payment, only for registration. Gisel recommended termination and rethinking how WFDF can manage the tasks which UC was



supposed to do independently.

A motion was made to approve of terminating the UC partnership by Gisel, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

# AFDA intention to become Ultimate only - outreach letter

Rauch informed the Board on the discussion which started in AFDA (AUS) to become Ultimate Frisbee only and no longer serve as a multi sports Association. This is clearly inconsistent with WFDF's strategic plan and with Olympic movement requirements. Rauch has drafted a letter to be send to AFDA. Rauch asked the Board to comment on the draft by Monday after the meeting.

### **Reports and Updates**

#### **WFDF Governance**

### **Athlete's Commission Report**

Rauch reported that the first meeting of the newly expanded Commission was held several days ago and there were good discussions. He noted that there was a complaint about the 2018 WJUC date. Rauch asked Gisel and Woldt to address the complaint as late August is difficult as many countries have classes beginning in that period. He wanted to make sure that there was an official response from WFDF.

# **SOTG** report

Van der Valk reported that the SOTG Sub-Committee is trying to increase SOTG education at the 2017 WCBU. Bergeron asked about an idea she had heard about of fining countries for low Spirit scores, and van der Valk answered that these were very initial ideas and nothing tangible.

#### 2016 Membership dues invoices

Bernardi reported about the efforts to get the three last members to pay their dues.

# Face-to-face Board meeting in New York on 22/23 OCT - Logistics

Bernardi reported that the meeting would be held at the JFK Hilton Garden Inn Hotel in Jamaica which is the same hotel as in 2014. Bergeron asked members to book their flights and to contact her with any questions.

# 2016 WFDF elections - positions and candidacies

Rauch asked that members report to Bernardi if they would stand for re-election or are not re-applying for the 2016 elections.

## **Disc Sport Reports**

#### **Disc Golf**

There was no report.



#### Guts

Taylor reported about a great WUGC in London and another event which took place in Denmark this very weekend. He also has received a Guts contact from Malaysia.

# **Freestyle**

Givens reported about the recent FPA tournament in New York and the Freestyle Hall of Fame induction class, where 11 individuals attended and commemorative discs were made. It took years to get this going. Due to weather, the Freestyle competition was moved indoors which caused spirited discussions. 2017 will be in Bibione with swirling wind. Discussions are underway on whether Freestyle should always be held indoors which would take away wind skills.

#### Overall

Burvall reported that he was working with Woldt on the 2017 event.

The certification tests are ready to go out and are being reviewed by Rob McLeod. Rauch commented that these should be published soon and be online.

#### **Beach Ultimate**

Van der Valk reported that the ANOC World Beach Games were moved from 2017 to 2019. WFDF needs to announce in 2017 that WCBU 2017 would be a qualifying event, possibly between Men, Women and Mixed. Rauch added that ideally there will be an official announcement of the event and perhaps WFDF could have the qualification as part of this announcement.

Bernardi asked for Board approval of the nature of WCBU 2017 as qualification event for World Beach Games 2019. Van der Valk proposed this.

Rauch supported the proposal under the assumption that there will be a WBG in 2019 and that WFDF is invited as a sport.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal by van der Valk, seconded by Givens. The proposal was approved unanimously.

## **Championship Events and others**

## **TDGWC - report**

Woldt reported that TDGWC was a great inaugural event and smaller than wished with 6 nations attending, but that there are high expectation on where this event can go in the future. It is expected that next year in the UK the event could be four times the size.

# **Americas Masters Games - Vancouver**

Gisel reported about the event with 3 Men's and 3 Women's teams participating, all British Columbia based. All had a great time and were happy to be participating in Multisport Games.

Morooka reported about his efforts to get Ultimate included to the World Masters Games 2021 in Kansai as demonstration.



#### **Finance**

# **Treasurer report**

Bergeron reported on cleaning up the last WUGC and WJUC expenditures and incomes. Any Congress expenses should be submitted to her.

## Other business

Rauch reported that more than 4,000 responses were received so far by the 2016 Global Disc Sport community survey compared to some 3,300 last time.

# **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be the face to face Board meeting in New York.

**Closing**: (01:08)

Rauch closed the meeting and thanked all participants for their contribution.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary