

Saturday, June 27, 2015

Saturday June 27th, 2015; 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 06:00 (Sunday, June 28th); Taiwan 05:00 (Sunday, June 28th).

Board members present:

Robert Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Fumio Morooka, Tomas Burvall (by proxy to van der Valk), Michael Hu (by proxy to Rauch), Ryan Purcell (Athletes' Commission, by proxy to van der Valk).

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

Board members absent/excused:

Kate Bergeron, Jamie Nuwer, Kevin Givens, Vincent Gaillard, Michael Downes, Steve Taylor.

Call to order (time: 23:07 CET)

The quorum was reached with 8 votes present.

Report by the President

Rauch welcomed the participants and thanked everybody for participating in the meeting. He congratulated Morooka who had celebrated the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Japanese Flying Disc Association (JFDA).

Decisions between meetings (None)

Minutes of 9 May 2015 meeting

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

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

2017 World Games qualification principles

Gisel presented the qualification criteria which need to be submitted to IWGA. Poland as a host nation will automatically qualify if they send a team to WUGC 2016. There is one change as the tiebreaker was the Masters Division before but will be the Mixed Division now. Gisel explained that the Top spot gets number of points equal to number of teams in that division in the rankings.

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

Membership applications from Chile and Georgia as regular members

Bernardi presented the applications from Chile (provisional) and Georgia (regular) for membership. He reported that several months ago Rauch had presented to the Board updated criteria definitions for application and both applicants meet these. There are recommendations for Georgia from the Russian Federation and for Chile from Argentina.

There was a motion made to approve sending the application from Chile for provisional membership to Congress by Morooka, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

Another motion was made to approve sending the application from Georgia for regular membership to Congress by Morooka, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously.

WU23 Ultiphotos co-operation proposal

Rauch informed the Board that Ultiphotos has sent a proposal to WFDF for a multi-year contract. The problem is that in 2015 there is no budget to serve such contract and that we should need a formal RFP process as there are several qualified service providers for official photography. Woldt confirmed that for WU23 TOC has planned to provide local photographers without charge. These do UKU events as volunteers. Rauch confirmed that with an Ultiphotos contract WFDF would get a minimum of 100 photos. Gisel added that for each event WFDF gets contacted by photographers. The present Ultiphotos proposal is great and we could have a RFP next year. Rauch proposed to use the proposal as a template for an RFP. In general WFDF needs great action shots from a diversity of teams and divisions, and from more generic scenes (e.g. opening ceremony). Van der Valk mentioned that at WCBU they had contracted Ultiphotos and the instructions were not followed well as TOC wanted layouts in front of people and emotions. Rauch concluded that WFDF is not in a position to discuss a multi-year contract now but we will consider it later on.

Olympic Target 2024 Advisory Committee

Rauch explained that he aims to establish such an Advisory Committee with key WFDF leaders and external expertise added to achieve the best results. He asked the Board to provide input and mentioned that we need to work on key areas as identified before. He hoped to have a proposal for the next Board meeting.

WFDF 2015 and 2016 event contracts - final approval

Rauch asked whether there were any questions on the event contracts included to the briefing book. In the absence of questions a motion was made to approve of the event contract for AOGCC 2015 by Morooka, seconded by van der Valk. The motion was approved unanimously.

For WJUC 2016 a motion was made for approval of the event contract by Gisel, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

Communication and Media Director

Rauch reported that there was only one response so far to the call for a Communication and Media Director, a volunteer position. Rauch added that WFDF expects an engagement of a few hours per week looking for help with social media like Facebook and assisting with press releases or looking into YouTube. Rauch has also been speaking to Rob McLeod but he is worried about being too busy.

A motion was made to approve the application, conditional on getting a national Member reference, by van der Valk, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF membership application for IMGA - Masters Games

Rauch reported that from the IOC recognition process we got the recommendation to participate in several traditional Multi Sports events like the World Masters Games. As our masters divisions are permanently growing it could be a good chance to add to our event portfolio in this age category in particular as the 2021 IMGA event is going to be hosted in Kansai, Japan. The application process is straightforward. Gisel added that when thinking about splitting off Masters from WUCC this approach could help us. Rauch thought that this question is not connected to WFDF events and the participation depends on the venue. It is a very inclusive event with tens of thousands of participants.

On the question whether IMGA would take teams away from our WFDF events, Rauch commented that Masters typically have more disposable income and would look at this more as vacation. Morooka explained that in 2021 the host city will provide the budget to host the tournament but players pay all of their costs.

A motion was made by Morooka, seconded by Griesbaum, to send the application to IMGA for a membership for WFDF and participation in the World Masters Games. The motion was approved unanimously.

Rauch confirmed that the application sheet for IMGA is approved as is.

Development Grant program 2015 - decision on principles

Rauch reported that WFDF has a contract with Discraft, they pay the discs but we need to pay shipping. Gisel mentioned that the Sport for All / Development Commission will get this information and short list the applications for the US\$ 4,000 fund available for the grants. Rauch proposed to share the fund with several more applicants. Gisel preferred to fund only three projects over providing too small shares and announced that the Commission will discuss and make a recommendation. One could focus on emerging or new nations and distribute to different geographic areas. The projects should offer some legacy, teams and groups which will continue. Gisel will report to the Board as soon as possible. It will not prevent a project from being funded if there was already a support in 2014.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

IOC recognition - update

Bernardi reported that the IOC has requested to give an updated report and a large part is coming from the report which was given to IOC officials in Lecco on the occasion of WUCC. WFDF has closed the last gaps, e.g. allocated full voting rights to the chair of the Athletes Commission in the Board. We have every reason to expect to receive the permanent recognition during the IOC Session in Kuala Lumpur. The report is included to the briefing book. Christian Wassmer from the IOC Sports Department confirmed he will meet with us and review WU23 in London.

SportAccord status

Rauch reported on the latest development on SportAccord. Gian-Franco Kasper from FIS (Ski) serves as interim President with elections coming up at an Extraordinary General Assembly on 11 November. The overall role well might be downgraded now compared to what SportAccord envisaged before. It is still unclear what will happen to the original SportAccord Multi Sport events.

Athlete`s Commission Report and survey

Bernardi reported that there is no Athlete`s Commission report yet and this was announced for the weeks to come.

WFDF Strategic Plan Task list follow up

Rauch asked the members to catch up with their tasks allocated at the Toronto Board meeting.

Potential new member countries - status

Bernardi reported that there were some development grant applications from countries who are not WFDF members. The new member project now focuses on the African continent in particular with regard to the African Ultimate Club event to come. He is positive that there would be two membership applications for the next Board meeting.

Van der Valk asked that new members be asked who could serve as Spirit Director as one aim would be that all current members assign a Spirit Director, too.

2015 Annual Census and dues invoices - status

Rauch asked that the 2015 member census sheet be amended as to adjust some incorrect figures. Some dues payments are still missing. A check will be conducted in particular on those countries entering teams for WU23.

WFDF 30th Anniversary August 14, 2015

Rauch asked the members to come up with ideas on how to commemorate the anniversary of the WFDF's founding in 1985.

Other Disciplines

Disc Golf

Rauch reported that for the first global team event in 2016 there is some expression of interest and we should see a bid materialize soon. PDGA is excited about the fact that a charity event they sponsored raised US\$ 214,000. There was some ESPN coverage on highlights. Downes has worked with Steve Taylor on Guts.

Freestyle

Rauch informed the Board that the FPA World Championships are taking place in Karlsruhe (GER). Griesbaum confirmed that the event is running well.

Guts

Rauch reported that Taylor is excited about AOGCC and they are working to having more participation at WUGC 2016. This could be biggest event in a long time.

Overall

Rauch reported that Rob McLeod will attend U23 for demos and teaching. The committee continues work on a certification program and a tournament manual.

Ultimate Events and others

Continental 2015 (PAUC, AOUC, EUC, AOGCC)

Woldt reported that EUC shows a successful registration with some 1,300 participants having registered. On AAUCC in Uganda Rauch reported that the event will be run as in the past as we will build on the experience of their 7-Hills tournament. On AOGCC Woldt reported that TOC has been working on their website and general information and we expect more information within a week. On PAUC there are new figures outlining that some 80 teams will attend.

WU23 2015 update

Woldt confirmed that TOC is working around the clock to finalise all matters. The discs, the merchandise and the medals all delivered. Final touches are made on the event handbook and the EMP is included in her report.

WUGC 2016 - report

Woldt reported that the staff members for 2016 will be at WU23 and learn things. End of August the official invitation will be sent out. WFDF has received requests to add a Grand Master division to the event portfolio.

WOC 2015

Woldt reported that 101 participants have registered and this is the biggest event in years. Everything is on track and there is nothing critical so far.

World Freestyle Championship 2015

There is no news on this event.

World Indoor Ultimate Championship 2017

Rauch reported that we are working on reactivating the working group and on submitting a call for bids.

World Games 2017

See respective point on the agenda on the qualification criteria.

Finance

Treasurer`s report

Rauch reported that cash is a little bit below from last year. With regard to the year to date budget we are a bit ahead. Expenses are behind budget. Generally WFDF is in a good shape. The shortfall from Lecco did not hurt us that much. The audited financials are not done yet as we started working with new auditors in the last week.

Other business

Rauch reported that the VC Ultimate online store is getting rolled out. US is done and others will come this week.

WFDF has received a letter from Ultimate groups in South Africa with concerns about civil rights during the AAUCC event. We have asked Uganda for a statement. WFDF will respond to South Africa on the matter during Congress.

Van der Valk reported about SOTG concerns about the pro-leagues as the SOTG Sub-Committee sees issues with the use of referees by MLU and AUDL. They are good at getting media coverage, but they are displaying referees and it may affect one of the main foundations WFDF is based upon. WFDF has never made an official comment here.

Rauch mentioned that in 2012 at Congress we had a Spirit discussion: WFDF does not use referees and USAU uses observers. AUDL made a statement. We could make a simple statement that they are playing a different game. In the survey we see that people like the idea of additional publicity but don't like referees. Rauch proposed to have further discussion e.g. with Brian and the leadership to consider our questions.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was proposed for late August.

Closing

Rauch thanked everyone for their contribution.

The meeting closed at 01:03 CET.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary