

Saturday, March 29, 2014

Conference Call on Saturday March 29th, 2014; UK, POR- 22:00; GER, SUI, SWE - 23:00; RSA – 00:00 (Sunday, March 30th); USA NY, VA, MI 18:00; USA CO, AZ 16:00; USA CA, CAN BC 15:00; Japan 07:00 (Sunday March 30th); Taiwan 06:00 (Sunday March 30th).

Board members present:

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Patrick van der Valk.

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

Board members absent or excused:

Sandie Hammerly, Brian Gisel, Kevin Givens, Tomas Burvall, Vincent Gaillard Jamie Nuwer, Steve Taylor, Michael Downes, Ryan Purcell (Athletes' Committee, non-voting).

Call to order (time: 23:00 CEST)

The quorum was not reached with only 5 members being present.

Report by the President

President Rauch welcomed all Board members and thanked them for joining the conference call. He expressed disappointment as several board members had previously indicated they would attend the meeting but were absent.

Decisions between meetings

None.

Minutes of meeting of March 1, 2014

As the quorum was not reached an online vote will be conducted on these minutes.

Decisions requiring votes of the Board

Potential application for inclusion in FISU University sports program

Bernardi summarized his report about the application of WFDF to be admitted to the FISU sports programme. FISU has provided a questionnaire for WFDF to file and requested several documents of support from WFDF member associations and National University Sports Federations (NUSF). The deadline for applications is March 31, 2014. Bernardi informed the Board that there are concerns about the replacement of the WFDF Under 23 World Championships by World University Championships (WUC). Questions were raised on whether WFDF member associations will have any say in the nomination of the teams to attend WUC. Bernardi requested approval from the Board on whether



WFDF should apply for inclusion to the FISU sports program.

Questions were asked whether WFDF would be excluding larger group of younger players, who are not students, if WU23 were to be displaced. It was suggested that WFDF could hold WUC as a national team event and have WU23 Club Championships. That was objected as there would not be Clubs with enough U23 players.

Rauch underlined that the proposal made by Bernardi suggests only submitting the FISU application in time and then seeing what the options were going forward. There would be no changes to the event portfolio in 2015. Bernardi underlined that the Ultimate Committee is discussing event formats, event portfolios and conditions and have not yet come to any conclusions on several questions, such as whether WU23 should be replaced by WUC. The first event on University level would be a FISU sanctioned World Cup. Bernardi noted that many WFDF member associations support the idea of holding World University Championships.

Morooka proposed to have WUC and WU23 as WUC is an important event in an IF`s event portfolio. It was mentioned that the costs for this group of players would be too high if there would be both events. Rauch added that the WUC draws from a different pool than WU23 so there will be different athletes attending. Rauch agreed with Bernardi that suspending the idea now would be a lost opportunity.

As there was no quorum available the vote will be put to an online poll. The vote should be conducted immediately mentioning the 31 March deadline to get in answers quickly.

2014 Athlete's Commission report and approval of program

Bernardi informed the Board members that the Athlete's Commission held their meeting last week. The Commission members discussed the elections to the Commission to be held in Lecco on the occasion of WUCC 2014. Chair Purcell is considering staying on the Commission.

The Commission also discussed having more members in the future or adding representatives from other disciplines, the latter suggestion being dismissed as not being useful at this time. A decision about a longer term of office would have to be decided about before the elections are held in 2014.

It was mentioned that in the future the Chair of the Athlete`s Commission might be a voting member within the Board of Directors as requested by the IOC and that might attract more candidates.

On the Global Players meeting there are discussions in the Ultimate Committee but nothing has come forward yet. As there was no quorum the discussion was postponed.

Proposal to amend WFDF Conduct Policy (TRG)

Rauch informed that there are modest revisions at hand to bring the Tournament Rules Group (TRG) into conformance with practical applications. The suggested changes are highlighted in briefing book and affect the composition of the TRG and the mechanism for bringing up issues. This will be brought up for a vote via electronic vote.



Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

IOC recognition/national NOC recognition - update

Rauch referred to the update given in the briefing book.

Membership issues – update

Rauch and Bernardi reported on latest developments. There is no need for discussion right now and the Board members had no questions.

WFDF Congress 2014 and Global Player Meeting - update

Bernardi reported about the Congress preparations and informed about the deadlines. The materials for the Congress will be sent out by 2 June 2014.

Global Disc Community Survey - update

Rauch informed the Board about the results of the Global Disc Community Survey. The results in the briefing book speak for themselves. Van der Valk mentioned that he felt that the survey might not be representative (especially on some of the spirit of the game questions) given that there were so many North American respondents. Rauch corrected that only 21% of the respondents are from US and 4% from Canada and this actually means that North America is underrepresented compared to the global and total numbers of players where North America represents two-thirds of all disc players. Van der Valk countered that North America represented only two countries our of 56 and only 10 votes out of more than 100.

Indoor Ultimate Working group - update

Bernardi reported on the conference call of the Indoor Ultimate Working group. Adrian Oleson from Norway was appointed to chair the further discussions of the group. The group also will discuss whether it makes sense to develop a special WFDF indoor event as soon as the time is right.

Annual Member census / membership dues invoices – update

Rauch referred the members to the information given in the briefing book.

Other Flying Disc sports

Freestyle

Rauch referred the members to the report given in the briefing book.

Guts



Taylor had nothing to report.

Overall

Burvall had nothing to report.

Disc Golf

Downes was not able to attend the call due to his working at a PDGA event.

Events

WUCC / WJUC 2014 Status Report

Bernardi referred to the extensive report given in the briefing book and added information about the Technical visit with TOC in Lecco on March 3 / 4, 2014. TOC is having a hard time meeting many of the deadlines, e.g. the insurance policy is still missing. Despite that, the discussions and the cooperation with TOC is very constructive. WFDF is taking the steps to ensure that the events will be run professionally but there are some shortcomings and they need to be worked out. There will be another conference call next week. Simon Hill will be the TD for WJUC and Brian Gisel for WUCC.

AOUC 2015 / PAUC 2015 Status Report

Bernardi reported that as of the initial bid deadlines there is interest to host AOUC from Hong Kong China (Michael Hsu), and that for PAUC there is interest from Argentina. It is still difficult to find hosts to run these continental events but we have interesting locations in these two venues.

WU23 2015 - update

Bernardi reported that as of the initial bid deadlines there is interest for WU23 from Great Britain, Poland, and Japan.

WCBU 2015 - update

Van der Valk reported that there are currently no updates but that the TOC appears to be well-organized. Griesbaum added that there are still some concerns about Dubai as location, e.g. as mentioned in an email from Switzerland. Van der Valk commented that most questions were answered in an interview he recently gave or directly to the Swiss email. He will send link of his interview to the Board.

Spirit of the Games Task Force

Rauch reported about a series of discussions in the task force and indicated that there would would be proposals for revisions to be introduced around officials, such as when there is difficulty in communication and rules knowledge. Rules certification will help with the latter. Van der Valk added that on TRG there were only a couple emails in the Ultimate Committee, and expressed disappointment that there was so little communication going on.



Finance

Financial statements and membership dues status

There was no special report provided by the Treasurer.

Any other business:

- Rauch asked the Board members to respond quickly to the FISU online vote.
- Rauch advised the Board members regarding the upcoming Sportaccord convention and meetings to be held in Belek, Turkey, at the beginning of April

Next Meeting

Proposed date: 26/27 April 2014.

Closing

The meeting closed at 00:29 CEST.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary