

WFDF 2017 Annual Congress Agenda
Royan, France, June 24, 2017, 07:30 am - 12:00 noon
Palais des Congrès

1 Call to order (time: 07:49)

Rauch welcomed the Congress participants and thanked the TOC for the organization of the WCBU and Congress venue.

2 Roll call of National Associations present & confirmation of votes allotted

The list of participants and voting rights is annexed to the minutes as Annex 1.

3 2016 Congress Minutes (already approved)

The 2016 Congress minutes were approved by Congress in an electronic vote and are included in the briefing book.

4 Decisions taken by Congress between 2016 and 2017 Congresses

The decisions taken in between the 2016 and 2017 Congresses were included in the briefing book.

5 Report by the President

Rauch referenced his written report and talked about the first official WFDF Test match which was played after WFDF had approved of the concept. He briefed the Congress on the development of the membership where WFDF is trying very much to institutionalize where playing activities are. Currently there are some 15 countries close to become institutionalized as a national member association, and WFDF may expect getting to 90 member associations by 2020. The principle being followed is to give each country where there is active disc sports activity the chance for membership, but to ensure that the applicant has established sufficient infrastructure to legitimately represent the interests of disc players with proper governance and a workable revenue model.

On the Olympic movement side, the ANOC 2019 World Beach Games are still planned to be held but there is no further information or update yet. WFDF was accepted by the International Masters Games Association (IMGA) as a member one year ago and has participated in the Americas Masters Games in Vancouver (CAN). Morooka added that in 2021 Kansai (JPN) would host the World Masters Games and the city of Kyoto would offer a venue for a Flying Disc demonstration to be held there. Rauch reported about the FISU recognition achieved by WFDF after a long period of work and efforts. He also informed the Congress that there was an opportunity to apply for Flying Disc be added to the Urban Lab at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires (ARG) but one must wait to hear further on a chance and interest by the organizers from BAYOGOC to get in.

Regarding Media, Rauch reported that WFDF has made considerable investments to have over 100 games live streamed in 2017 and had a CBS sport program in 2016, producing more clips and using more social media. WFDF has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Olympic channel.

WFDF has established an Advisory Council comprised of sports professions from outside of the federation. WFDF also has appointed the first ever Sustainability officer.

On the development grant side, the funds allocated by the IOC and ARISF are required to go solely to development projects and Anti-Doping.

6 Report by the Executive Director

Bernardi reported that WFDF is in the process of accepting its 75th member national association and reminded the participants that it is mandatory to have as many countries as possible attending Congress.

He reported on increasing difficulties on getting new members admitted and assured that there are no proposals for membership unless there is a full trust in their reliability.

WFDF is fully trying to apply the IOC Olympic Agenda 2020 criteria like sustainability, good governance, gender equity and youth. Addressing the latter, WFDF is entering into a co-operation with the International School Sport Federation (ISF) targeting to have the first Flying Disc School Sport World Championships 2019 in Le Mans (FRA). This also will help strengthening the ties in France, looking forward to a probable awarding of the 2024 Olympic Games to Paris.

Bernardi encouraged the member associations to seek national recognition by their National Olympic Committees. The participation of Flying Disc in Multisport Games hosted by NOC organizations like ANOC or EOC could open new doors for recognition. WFDF needs to be present on as many Multisport Games platforms as possible to demonstrate global appeal of the sport.

7 Review of 2017 Member Census and 2016 Disc Community Questionnaire

Rauch referenced the data published in the briefing book and explained demographic information asking members to submit feedback.

8 IOC Recognition - Overview and Update - WFDF participation in Multi-Sport Games - international governance issues - sustainability - integrity

Bernardi reported that the importance of the Olympics results from the fact for many sports that more than 80% of the sports in the Olympic program are not in the public focus normally except during the Olympic Games. WFDF must follow several criteria and follow Olympic Agenda 2020 principles like promoting gender equity where the IOC already put a high importance when approving of the 2020 Olympic Games events in Tokyo. Other criteria are the history of the sport and its youth appeal as well as media and commercial figures. WFDF must tick all the boxes to stand a chance to get in and also fulfill governance criteria and be fully WADA Code compliant.

The Congress then discussed further criteria which WFDF would have to respond to and how these can be met.

Discraft presentation:

The Congress heard a presentation by Pad Timmons from Discraft who was impressed that so many countries are attending the Congress. He has seen the sport grow tremendously since 1990. He underlined that Discraft is trying to help WFDF and will work together with WFDF to get more discs into more countries.

Sustainability report:

WFDF Sustainability officer Johanna von Toggenburg briefed the Congress on the sustainability activities since she was appointed earlier in the year. This is no new topic but now we can measure it and show it to the world. It is important to measure the impact the sport has on the environment. But Sustainability also includes next to environment the health and economics or gender equality. Sustainability helps save money and is good for the environment and for people. The IOC requires all IFs to step up regarding Sustainability. WFDF needs to have a strategy not only for events but also for the sport. Von Toggenburg will apply the SSET (Sport and Sustainability Event Toolkit) and have a self-evaluation showing WFDF where it stands and getting better gradually. She expected a fairly good sustainability rating for the event.

9 WFDF Bylaws Revision

Rauch referenced the briefing book and added that he understands that several members were surprised about these proposed changes although they were communicated during the last two Congresses. He proposed not to have a vote on the proposals during the present Congress but to use the opportunity to further discuss the matter. It turned out that the largest problem seems to be the “one member per country being responsible for all disc sports” clause, despite the fact that this was a unified approach and reflective of WFDF as governing body for all Flying Disc sports. There was a proposal for a transition period of five years.

Rauch commented that WFDF must face the fact that there is a higher standard for those newly applying for Olympic prospects than for incumbents. Not having all Flying Disc sports in one national association causes problems with national recognition, as recently seen in France when they applied for NOC recognition. Some WFDF member countries have an Ultimate association only. In the old days most NGBs were established as multi-disc sports associations and while WFDF is not requiring all Members to follow the same model, there needs to be coordination and representation for all disc sports in each country.

Other Bylaw changes presented include an expansion of the Board of Directors and a representation of Continental Association on the Board.

Rauch asked the members for input. Hill responded that UKU is not organized a multisport federation but that they knew that this would have to come. The important question would be what is expected from members moving forward regarding to sports which do not exist in the respective country. Great Britain has a Disc Golf association and he asked whether UKU would just be made into an umbrella organization. UKU just has received national recognition by UK Sports and needs time to get the matters planned and coordinated. He proposed that WFDF should form a group to find ways how to do it properly. Canada supported this point.

Rauch repeated that there is not just one single way to do it. There would be no need to implement the changes overnight. The problem is that in the last months there were member associations starting to go exactly in the opposite direction splitting the sports and therefore WFDF must get things going. Bernardi confirmed that the move done by Sweden and Australia now would be a step in the wrong direction. He commented that the aim of the Olympic Movement is having one member association representing that country within the IF.

Rauch insisted that WFDF would not start making NGBs do things which are not happening by themselves. He suggested that it would be helpful for member associations to be named "Flying Disc Federation/Association" but not required. Further, WFDF would never establish a requirement that members must spend on a budget for starting other disciplines in their country.

Sweden commented that WFDF must find a better way to work with the Disc Golf global community. Rauch commented that there is no rivalry as WFDF does not have individual members. WFDF has a framework for international competitions, i.e. the Disc Golf Team World Championships. As PDGA had had a change at the Executive level, we plan to re-establish a dialogue and work toward a way to cooperate with each other.

Moser commented that Switzerland was discussing about splitting up, currently having Swiss Disc Sport and the actual work is done in the member organizations Swiss Ultimate and Disc Gold Association. But Swiss Disc Sport is a member of the NOC. Rauch confirmed that this umbrella model perfectly works but it would not work if the two different groups would apply separately for NOC recognition. Such a confederation/umbrella organization model can effectively work.

It was agreed that discussions should be proceeded by a Bylaws revision Task Force and Rauch asked for nominations for such a Task Force be sent to WFDF.

School Sport event:

Cedric Hayere from the French National School Sport Federation (UNSS) presented the plan for a first ISF/WFDF World School Sports Championships in Le Mans in 2019. The event could have 16 countries and 16 teams of mixed school teams, not national teams and the proposed date is 25-30 June 2019 to be confirmed with WFDF. WFDF will follow up with ISF and UNSS as well as FFDF on the event.

10 Ultimate Committee Discussion Topics

a) General Update

Gisel reported about the outcome of WUGC 2016 in London which was a great event with a size well over 100 teams, which was much bigger than the expected 80 teams.

As a result, WFDF sees more and more members playing at events with more teams. Additionally, new members have started to send teams and some long-standing members are asking to send more teams. This constitutes a challenge for the Ultimate Committee of how to deal with the increase.

The Appendix of the Ultimate rules has been updated. The major change was changing to a gender rule in the mixed division used at WCBU where the offense

chooses to end-zone chooses. The rule was filtered down to other events and might have an automatic gender switching coming up as will be used at TWG, perhaps also at WUGC in 2020. The UC has adjusted how national teams may be made up. There was also an update how the scheduling is done and how to handle cancelling games or rounds due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

Gisel added that WFDF has arranged for a separate Masters Ultimate Club World Championships in 2018 in Winnipeg and might well make the same decision for WUGC 2020, as more than 160 teams wanted to come and even after cutting squad sizes WFDF still could not accommodate all divisions.

On Game Advisors he reported that out of the Pilot Project in 2014 WFDF started a global spread and has had a training schedule and run Game Advisor clinics. There is a plan to have Game Advisors for WUCC and WU24 as AFDF has been using GAs. The goal would be to have 100 certified GAs by the end of 2018.

The UC is working on creating a standard rule set for USAU and WFDF and formalizing all Masters divisions on grass sand and in USAU. WFDF is having many events, looking at having also regional events. In the next 12 months four major events are coming up: WU24, WUCC, WUMCC and WJUC.

Gisel mentioned that WFDF gets many bids, thankfully, and the next call for bids is coming soon for 2019 and 2020.

Rockwood reported that there were great strides since London 2016. On marketing, Fanseat.com wanted to stream WCBU behind their paywall. WFDF proposed to stream fields 2 and 3. WFDF has received a rights fee. But the main games will remain free. Unilad as largest platform on Facebook with 1 Billion users/week might give WFDF a slot on their platform.

VC Ultimate presentation:

Adriana Whithers reported about the 3rd year of the WFDF-VC partnership where she has learned a lot about the different tournaments. As WFDF's official partner VC want to try to get as much discs into the hands of developing countries as possible. Also VC wants to do more for women in sports and asked for feedback.

b) Upcoming WFDF events: 2017

c) World Games 2017 - Presentation

Dul and Bernardi reported about the preparations for TWG 2017. Participating teams are Australia, USA, Poland, Colombia, Japan, Canada. Game Advisors would be used for the first time at TWG from 21-23 July 2017 in Wroclaw (POL).

d) Continental Championships 2017: Africa, Asia/Oceania, PanAmerica, Europe

e) Ultimate events 2018: WMUCC, WUCC, WU24 (2017) and WJUC

f) Masters: American Masters Games Vancouver, World Masters Games Kansai

g) Beach Ultimate - General Update and World Beach Games

h) Spirit of the Game - General Update

i) Game Advisors

j) Other variations: Indoor, Wheelchair

k) Other

11 Disc Sports other than Ultimate - the reports are attached to the minutes

12 Annual Risk Assessment

Rauch introduced the Annual Risk Assessment which was initiated five years ago. WFDF must think through potential risks just to be prepared and meet challenges such as security concerns. This will stay with WFDF, as long as organizing sport is its business.

A motion was made to approve of the Annual Risk Assessment 2017 by Schöck, seconded by Hicks. The assessment was approved unanimously.

13 WFDF Anti-Doping Program & WADA Compliance

Jörn Verleger reported about requirements by WADA that the NGBs set up national Anti-Doping rules and start education on the topic. Rauch added that WFDF member associations should start developing a written code. WFDF had developed that in 2004 and did the first testing in 2011.

14 Financial Report

a) Year to date financial report

Bergeron referenced the written financial report and gave explanations on income and expenses. She characterized WFDF's budget approach as on the conservative side.

b) Vote: Approval of 2018 budget

Rauch asked the Congress to approve the 2018 budget.

A motion was made to approve of the 2018 budget by Hill, seconded by Hicks. The motion was approved unanimously.

c) Presentation of year end 2016 and interim 2017 reports

Bergeron reported about the dues coming in as expected and added projections on the numbers of participants at events which resulted in some extra money in 2016.

The auditors have approved the 2016 financials and also confirmed what the old auditor did.

A motion was made to approve of the 2016 audited financials by Hill, seconded by Portwine. The motion was approved unanimously.

d) Vote: Approval of 2017 Auditor

The auditor was already approved by Congress by an electronic vote.

In the following the reports were tabled to be annexed to the minutes.

15 Commission Reports - the reports are enclosed to the minutes

- a) Athletes' Commission
- b) Women's commission
- c) Youth Commission
- d) Sport for All/Development Commission

16 Continental Association Reports - the reports are enclosed to the minutes

- a) Africa - AAFDF
- b) Asia/Oceania – AFDF
- d) PanAmerica - PAFDF

17 Other Business

Bernardi reported about the move to appoint new members of the Women in Sport Commission and he would talk to candidates at WCBU in Royan.

20 Adjournment (time: 11:57)

Rauch thanked everyone for attending Congress and encouraged active dialogue as always.

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary