Minutes of the Meeting of the WFDF Board of Directors

Sunday August 12th, 2018; UK, POR- 14:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 15:00; USA NY, VA, MI 09:00; USA CO, AZ 07:00; USA CA, CAN BC 06:00; Japan 22:00; Hong Kong 21:00; Philippines 21:00.

Board members present:
Robert “Nob” Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Karen Cabrera, Ryan Purcell, Fumio Morooka, Kevin Givens.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, (Executive Director, non-voting), Tim Rockwood (non-voting), Gabriele Sani (Development Program)

Board members absent/excused:
Tomas Burvall, Caroline Malone, Jamie Nuwer, Charlie Mead, Steve Taylor, Amandine Constant,

Call to order (time: 15:08 CET)
The quorum was reached with 8 votes of 8/14 needed.

Report by the President
Rauch welcomed all attendees and thanked for participating.

Decisions between meetings
(none)

Minutes of last meeting - 23 June 2018
A motion was made by Gisel to approve the minutes of the 23 June 2018 meeting, seconded by Givens. The motion was approved unanimously.

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

Athletes Commission delegations to Commissions
Bernardi reported about the elections for the Athletes’ Commission and stated that, after the board meeting, Ali Smith would be the new AC Chair. He presented the proposal to appoint additional AC members to balance gender and regional representation at the next board meeting and to assign AC members to our various commissions as members. This would allow the AC to become a part of decision processes at a much earlier stage and to speed up decision making.

A motion was made by Purcell to approve the Athletes’ Commission appointments to Commissions, seconded by Givens. The motion was approved unanimously.
Beach Development Grant assessment and proposal

Cabrera reported that since announcing the Beach Ultimate grant program the Beach Ultimate Committee had received 12 proposals from 10 countries: Spain (2), Philippines (2), Canada, Estonia, India, Russia, Turkey, Uganda, Vanuatu, Venezuela. The BUC had evaluated all proposals and came up with a list of projects to be funded for the Board’s approval.

Rauch and Bernardi noted that those projects in need of discs should be able to receive these through WFDF’s sponsor Discraft. The disc request should go through Woldt.

Bernardi noted that one of the proposals was for a program which had already received grants through the Ultimate grant program twice. He recommended that in the future different grant approval groups within WFDF should coordinate to ensure that as many different programs as possible could receive support.

A discussion ensued about slight changes to the BUC’s proposed distribution of grants. As a result Rauch proposed to accept the BUC’s recommendations with the following changes: 1) The Habla Claro tour (Venezuela) should receive US$ 500, 2) David Picon’s video project “How to train for Beach Ultimate” should receive US$ 500, and 3) all discs needed for the accepted programs should come through Discraft.

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

Rauch asked Cabrera to inform the board if any of the applicants could not go forward with the changes mentioned above and that the adjusted grant program should be published in a press release.

2018 Development program

Bernardi reminded the board that WFDF had to report back to IOC on the spending of the IOC development monies by the end of 2018. Therefore the call for development program proposals for 2018 needed to be sent out as soon as possible. Bernardi also noted that sending grants to programs in countries which are not yet WFDF members might help WFDF to gain new members.

Sani confirmed that the evaluation program which he had set up had been tested and that it could go live any time. He mentioned that roughly half of the budget had already been spent on the gender equality workshops during WUCC in Cincinnati.

Rauch asked if it was feasible to have grant applications in by the next board meeting which Sani considered as unlikely. He confirmed, however, that all paper work for the financial report to IOC would be done in time for the year 2018.

WFDF new membership applications and approach

Rauch reported that in some non-member countries flying disc groups did not have the personnel or expertise to do the paper work to join WFDF. WFDF could offer them help through local experienced sports administrators which were already in contact with WFDF.
Bernardi explained that he found several non-member countries with documented flying disc activities on Facebook. Many of these countries needed help to apply for WFDF membership and through his contacts to sports officials (e.g. from NOC’s) he saw a chance to provide the help needed and perhaps be able to raise WFDF’s membership number to 100 by 2020. He therefore proposed to use sport administrators within the respective country and make them help the community on site to organize, establish an administration and getting together the paperwork for membership application.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve this approach, seconded by Purcell. The motion was approved unanimously.

**WADA Corrective Action Report - conclusions and next steps**

Bernardi reported that WADA had approved all actions which WFDF had been requested to take by August 1st. The next steps needed to be taken by WFDF would be discussed at the September board meeting and, with a deadline later in Fall, they were not time critical.

**Bylaws revision update**

Rauch reported that at Congress in Cincinnati, there were two proposals to make changes to the Bylaws. The first was the overall revisions that had been vetted over the last year by a special task force, which were approved. The second was a proposal from the Swiss and Belgian associations to incorporate the concept of “self-officiation” into the Bylaws and require Congress approval any changes of it. While Congress was supportive in principle of this second proposal, it was agreed that the language of the amendments needed to be revised to ensure that they said what was meant. A small group was convened to work on the wording and they have come up with the final language for the Bylaws revision proposal, which needed approval by the board before being sent to Congress to be voted on.

A motion was made by Kate to approve going forward with the latest amendments to the Bylaws and having Congress vote electronically on them, seconded by Moro. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Reconstituted Board**

Rauch discussed the new board composition under the new bylaws. This new board would be comprised of all the same members: President, Secretary, Treasurer, six disc sports Chairs, Athletes’ Commission Chair, representatives from WFDF’s four continental associations, Medical Director, Spirit of the Game committee Chair and two at large members. This would raise the size of the board from 14 to 18 members. There will be a proposal with the changes and new members to the reconstituted board at the next meeting.

**Plan for putting out Sponsor/Partner RFPs and Approved Disc policy**

Rauch announced that new RFPs for WFDF’s apparel and disc sponsors as well as additional partnerships needed to be decided at the next board meeting and be sent out. He stated that as part of WFDF’s relationship to its disc sponsor he saw the need to formalize a new Approved Disc Policy. He expected to have this also up for board vote at the next meeting.
Commercial and Broadcast recap for 2018

Rockwood expressed his content with the broadcasting situation at the WUCC in Cincinnati, especially when the transition to the indoor venue had to be done within a few hours. Considering the resources the achievements reached were excellent. He noted, however, that other sports of similar size were spending much more money into building brand awareness. He suggested to have a session at the next face-to-face meeting to discuss ideas how to raise Flying Disc brand awareness.

IT project and website revamp

Rauch commented that the website revamp was apparently stalled. He expected to have a proposal how to move on by the next board meeting.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athletes’ Commission Report

Rauch thanked Purcell for his work during the past 4 years as first Chair of the AC. He expressed hope to continue to use his experience and enthusiasm to advance disc sports in the future. Purcell thanked the members of the board for their support and for the experience he gained during his term. He confirmed that he was still interested in doing disc sports related work.

Freestyle

Givens reported about the latest FPA World Championships in Trnava, Slovakia, August 1-4, 2018. It was part of a larger disc sports event (with Ultimate, Disc Golf, Canine Disc) and ran very well. He also reported that 15 individuals had been inducted into the Freestyle Flying Disc Hall of Fame.

Rauch congratulated Givens for his induction into the Freestyle Flying Disc Hall of Fame.

Overall

Rauch reminded that Burvall had announced that he had to step down from his Chair position for personal reasons. WFDF was looking for suggestions to fill this position.

Givens reported that he was in touch with Burvall. The latest talks made it seem likely to have the next WOC in 2019 in Virginia.

Beach Ultimate

(see the Beach Development Grant assessment and proposal mentioned above)
Championship Events and others

2018/2019 events - report

Gisel reported that there should be a recommendation for PAUCC 2019 by the end of the following week.

Givens remarked that in Woldt’s event report the expected number of participants for WOC 2019 with 880 was too high. He expected 80 – 100 participants.

2021 World Games Birmingham format

Gisel reported that he had outlined a more detailed playing format for 8 nations to play over 5 days with a semi-final. He added that the raise from 6 nations to 8 was welcomed very much by the Congress participants.

Bernardi reported that the proposal to have 8 nations play over 5 days had now been officially approved by the IWGA Executive meeting. He reminded that the WFDF Competition Manager still needed approval.

Gisel confirmed he would contact USAU about this.

Finance

Treasurer’s report

Bergeron reported that currently due to the large WFDF events of this year much money was coming in but she expected many expenditures and invoices to come in soon. She confirmed that the net income would still been higher than budgeted, but it was yet unclear how much higher.

Gisel confirmed that there would be a significant revenue increase from WUCC, not much from WMUCC and none from WJUC.

Other Business

Rauch announced that he planned to have the next face-to-face board meeting in late January or early February 2019.

Next Meeting


Closing: 16:41 CET

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary