

Minutes for the ExComm meeting July 11, 2021  
9am PST / 12pm NY EST / 6pm CET / 8pm GST

**Attending:**

Robert “Nob” Rauch (chair), Kate Bergeron, Brian Gisel, Thomas Griesbaum  
Volker Bernardi, Karina Woldt, Patrick Fourcampré-Maye, Igor Janković

**Call to order (Rauch)**

18:03 CEST

**Overview by the President**

President Rauch opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

**Decisions between meetings**

(none)

**Decisions requiring votes of or specific input from the ExCom**

**Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes APR 24, 2021 meeting**

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2021, seconded by Kate. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Review of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes JUN 6, 2021 meeting**

The minutes were presented to the Executive Committee and will be presented for approval at the next WFDF Board of Directors meeting.

**Latest developments on WFDF 2021/22 events, WUGC refunds**

Woldt reported that the Covid-19 Working Group had met on the 20th of June to discuss the current status of the Pandemic and the safety aspects and viability of hosting WFDF events in the future. WFDF's Chief Medical Officer Nuwer agreed that hosting ETDGC in August 2021 in Croatia with European teams attending would be safe to proceed. Given the fact that the sport is played outdoors with no mass

gatherings of players or spectators, Nuwer said the risk of transmission was extremely low and unlikely.

The Working Group also discussed the viability of WFDF's 2022 events and decided there were no immediate grounds as to why WFDF cannot proceed with the planning, opening of registration and collection of fees at this time. Nuwer referred to the current global vaccination rates as slower than anticipated, however given the fact that there were still almost 10 months until WBUC, it was likely large group gathering for sports would be an acceptable and common practice. Therefore, WFDF continues preparations for next year's events.

WUGC 2020 refunds had been sent to most teams. Due to missing or incorrect bank accounts, refunds could not be sent to teams from 8 countries and the Event Team was working on getting the correct bank account info from the teams.

A discussion ensued about how the planning of the 2022 events should take into account the developments around COVID-19: the Delta variant, new variants, vaccination speed in different countries, travel restrictions and national quarantine demands. It was agreed that WFDF cannot force athletes at its events to be vaccinated. It was suggested that perhaps volunteers should show proof of vaccination. Currently the travel situation for many countries is very difficult or impossible. If it does not improve, WFDF could still consider holding an event if at least 8 countries were able to attend, depending on the economics.

WFDF should be very careful with collecting fees for upcoming events and do so as late as the hosts' budget allows it. Woldt advised that some hosts needed the first payments by September 2021 in case of a cancellation in, say, October 20% of the money would be lost.

Rauch advised that at Congress 2021 everyone should be made aware how hard it was to predict the pandemic situation for 2022 and that WFDF was trying to ask only for money which could be returned 100% until it was clear and certain that the event would happen. He suggested that if needed perhaps WFDF could front some money to get the early events going unless the amounts were very big. If the events would be much smaller than planned it would still be good to host them.

Considering The World Games in 2022 it was mentioned that chances for Australia not being allowed to travel to the US or having to be quarantined for 14 days were not insignificant and a replacement might be needed.

Rauch said WFDF would need to consider the situation with whatever new data there was in September 2021 and would perhaps be able to plan better.

## **Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games - latest developments / WFDF strategy**

The IOC has been quite specific that introduction of new sports in future Olympic Games will need to fit within the overall 10,500 athlete quota and be able to use already existing facilities being used for other sports. WFDF must take this into account when submitting an athlete quota and a format of competition, as well as suitability for broadcasting. It was agreed that WFDF will need to be highly flexible about how it would get a chance to enter the Games.

WFDF should also try to have a meeting with the LA28 organizers together with USAU representatives within the next few months to discuss quota, format, field size, potential changes of rules, and number of teams. It was also suggested to host an exhibition game in the Los Angeles area in the autumn, perhaps a friendly USA vs Canada game or, if cross-border travel restrictions continue, between two US teams.

## **WFDF 2021 census and membership dues invoices - update**

So far, 60 members had filed the annual census. After the approval of the fee reduction for 2021 by Congress on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 40 invoices had been sent to NFs of which 85% had been paid to date.

After the deadline to submit the Census passes, WFDF will use the numbers submitted by the respective NFs in 2020 to calculate the 2021 dues invoices.

## **Madagascar (MFDL) membership application**

Bernardi had been in contact with MFDL for almost 2 years. The application documents were inspected and were in order and he recommended to accept the application.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the Madagascar (MFDL) membership application, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Serbia (SFDA) membership application**

Bernardi thanked Janković for his important role in receiving this application. While there had been a strong Ultimate league in Serbia for many years the application was submitted by a group of Disc Golf athletes. Since the relationship between these two groups was very good, and given that the application was in order, he recommended to accept the application.

A motion was made by Griesbaum to approve the Serbia (SFDA) membership application, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bernardi asked to put these applications to Congress together with Ghana and Nigeria so there was a chance to get these new members before the Congress meeting in August. It was confirmed that he should do so by July 20<sup>th</sup> to keep the 30 day voting period.

Bernardi added that the Republic of Fiji might become WFDF's 100<sup>th</sup> member. This would also enable the federation in Fiji to be immediately recognized by their NOC.

### **Associate Membership application - PDGA - update**

The Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) had expressed interest to apply for Associate membership and had asked for an invitation. Since PDGA was a previous charter member of WFDF, no proof of PDGA's credibility was needed and the application would be presented to Congress for approval very quickly.

### **New Memberships/update**

Bernardi presented these potential candidates: PAFDF (Ecuador, Jamaica, Guatemala, Cuba, Puerto Rico), AAFDF (Senegal, Namibia, Burundi, Cote d' Ivoire), EFDF (San Marino, Monaco), and AOFDF (Fiji, Vietnam).

Receiving and approving applications from a number of these countries would help WFDF to be included in the Youth Olympic Games (YOG).

### **Continental Associations update: EFDF**

The EFDF statutes still had not been finalized. Therefore, communicating with TAFISA and EUSA to enter European multi-sports events cannot happen through EFDF; since these associations receive EU funding, only federations incorporated in Europe can be partners and receive support (so WFDF cannot request such support).

However, chances to be included e.g. in the EUSA 2024 games were very good if EFDF could move forward quickly. EFDF needed to schedule a general assembly and vote on the statutes.

Bernardi also added that in his talks and meetings with members from TAFISA and EUSA he noticed that some of their representatives did not have a clear concept of flying disc as a sport. He recommended to invest more resources to raise the awareness of the sport.

### **Mediterranean Flying Disc Confederation - project description**

Bernardi suggested to set up the Mediterranean Flying Disc Confederation (MFDC) in order to be accepted in the Mediterranean Games. The confederation would have legal seat in Italy and would get support by CONI. All Mediterranean flying disc federations would be asked to join the confederation and they would need to formally found it. The next Mediterranean Games will be in Italy in 2026. Ultimate and Disc Golf could be included.

The project received unanimous support and Bernardi was asked to start it.

### **Membership issues: MEX**

Bernardi reported that the two conflicting parties in Mexico had met for reconciliation and he had received information that the unification had been achieved. He was waiting for the official meeting minutes and expected this case to be closed.

### **Finance: Treasurer's report - June 2021 YTD**

Currently, with most membership dues collected, WFDF was about US\$5,000 above the budget. Bergeron stated that WFDF will open a bank account with HSBC bank to get an account that can transact in Euros.

Since WFDF's bookkeeper had announced her retirement for 2021 year end, Bergeron was looking for a replacement. It was suggested to ask USA Ultimate for recommendations.

### **WFDF Annual Congress (Sat, 21 Aug 2021, 15:00 CET) preparations**

The WFDF Annual Congress will be fully online again like last year. It is planned for ExCom to have a dry run before (date tbc). For proper vote tallying an updated list of votes per member will be supplied to Fourcampré-Maye and Griesbaum.

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**FISU/EUSA University Events 2023-2024: EUSA Games (HUN) and FISU Cup**

Bernardi confirmed chances were good for flying disc to be included in the EUSA Games 2024 in Hungary and the FISU Cup.

**Next meeting**

Board: 11/12 SEP; ExComm: 16/17 OCT

Closing at 19:40 CEST