
Saturday, February 12, 2022

USA HI: 12:00 noon, USA CA, CAN BC: 14:00; USA CO, CAN Calgary: 15:00, USA NY, MI, VA: 17:00, DOM: 18:00, UK, IRL, POR: 22:00, GER, SRB, FRA: 23:00, UGA: 01:00 (Sunday, February 13th, 2022), UAE: 02:00 (Sunday, February 13th, 2022), JPN: 07:00 (Sunday, February 13th, 2022), KOR: 07:00 (Sunday, February 13th, 2022)

Board members present:

Robert “Nob” Rauch (chair), Brian Gisel, Thomas Griesbaum, Caroline “Caz” Malone, Yoonee Jeong, Haude Hermand, Rob McLeod, Liam Grant, Lori Daniels, David Raflo, Nicole Bulos, José Amoroso, Fumio Morooka, Charlie Mead (by proxy)

Also attending (non voting): Volker Bernardi, (Secretary General), Karina Woldt (Managing Director Events and Operations), Igor Janković (Administrative Coordinator), Tim Rockwood (Managing Director Broadcasting and Marketing)

Board members absent/excused:

Alex Matovu, Kate Bergeron, Adam Swansson, Jamie Nuwer

Call to order (time: 23:05 CET)

Quorum reached with 14 votes of 10/18 needed.

Report by the President

Rauch welcomed everybody to the first Board Meeting of the new year and greeted José Amoroso, the new chair of the Spirit of the Game Committee.

Decisions between meetings

(none)

Minutes of the meeting Board of Directors - 18 December 2021

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors - 18 December 2021, seconded by Daniels. The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes of the meeting Executive Committee 23 January, 2021 - for information

Presented for information.

Decisions requiring votes of or input from the Board

Responsibilities and protocols for WFDF Board members

On occasion of the first meeting of the new year Rauch outlined the duties of Board members. Being a working Board every member has certain responsibilities and areas in which they make a contribution to disc sports in general. The Board meets in 4-6 conference calls per year and members should attend most of these meetings. Once the pandemic situation has improved WFDF will again have a biannual face-to-face-meeting.

Members should respond to electronic votes within seven calendar days and reply to e-mail correspondence within three business days. Reports for Board meetings should be submitted well in advance. In case of circumstances which keep a Board member from fulfilling these duties the President or the General Secretary should be informed.

When communicating with others outside of WFDF it must be considered that even private statements could be seen as WFDF statements. Any board member must avoid conflicts of interest in order to protect WFDF's interests. Board members who have a "potential conflict of interest" should notify the Ethics Commission so that a potential conflict does not become an actual conflict. Board members must maintain the confidentiality of any personal or sensitive information they acquire during their service to the board.

McLeod remarked that Board members should be familiar with all flying disc disciplines. It was agreed that this was possible up to a certain degree, and that every Board member should be aware that the board was making governance decisions for all disciplines.

WFDF Events Team Report

Woldt reported on her technical site visit in Limerick, Ireland, for WMUCC 2022. She was very satisfied with the standard of facilities and grass and turf fields. She met 8 out of 10 key staff members who were very well on top of their delegated tasks. WMUCC 2022 would be the largest ever Master event and it needed to be successful and good. Since all other venue sites – except for WOC – were known to the WFDF Events Team, there would be no more technical site visits for 2022 events.

There would be a WFDF hygiene plan for each 2022 event but the Events Team was waiting to send them out as COVID-19 rules could change over the weeks in individual countries as well as border crossing rules.

The WJUC had been moved from the Dominican Republic to Wroclaw, Poland, due to a lack of teams signed up. The event would be held in conjunction with the European EUF U17 championships. So far 23 teams had signed up and a total of 40 teams had registered together with the U17 event. Woldt was concerned about the potential aggression by Russia against Ukraine. She hoped fighting would not start as this could lead to teams withdrawing. As little money as possible was being spent for organizing the event and the situation was being monitored closely.

Woldt reported that due to the late cancellation of the WBUC in Los Angeles a certain amount of money had been spent already by the LOC over the past 18 months. Woldt calculated that the teams signed up for the event would be returned 100% of player fees but only 74% of team fees. She asked for approval of the Board.

A motion was made by Jeong to approve withholding of 26% of WBUC 2022 team fee to cover costs for LOC and refund 100% of player fees, seconded by Malone. The motion was approved unanimously.

Fee collections for the remaining 2022 events had been according to plan. Gisel suggested to publicly outline the percentage of fees collected and the number of teams registered to make sure the WFDF members and its athletes knew the events were going ahead and perhaps build up excitement.

The WFDF 2022 World Team Disc Golf Championships (WTDGC) had received the biggest interest ever with 28 countries signed up. It was now planned to cap the event at 32 teams.

For the World Games all 8 teams qualified to attend were working on getting there. Most of the administration fees had been collected.

Daniels noted that on the WFDF web site the event page was slightly outdated. Rauch confirmed that this was due to current technical difficulties with updating the web site but it was being worked on.

Woldt reported that, unfortunately, WFDF's Official Footwear Supplier, Universe Point has been heavily impacted by the pandemic and have informed WFDF they are terminating their sponsorship as they were closing their footwear business.

Virtual Disc Golf Championships

The qualifying round of the WFDF 2022 Virtual Sport World Team Disc Golf Championship (VSWTDGC) was still running with 38 countries from which at least one male and one female player had participated. Eligibility had been checked in video calls and ID checks. The finals would take place during the following weekend among the top 19 countries. The total participant numbers was lower than expected but this was the inaugural event. Woldt expected that VSWTDGC could be held annually in the future. Gisel suggested to potentially even make it a semi-annual event.

Game Advisors Training for 2022

In the past two years no Game Advisor (GA) training clinics had taken place. In 2022 up to four of them could take place (in Germany, UK, Colombia, and Malaysia), all in conjunction with Ultimate events which helped reduce costs. WFDF is looking to add local GAs for this year's championships which will reduce travel costs. Also, an online tool would help current GAs to refresh their knowledge.

Gisel remarked that Colombia was using GAs at their national events and he looked forward to more national federations doing so. Gisel was working on the budget for these training sessions and planned to apply for support from the WFDF development program.

Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games - latest developments / WFDF strategy

The IOC had recently announced three new sports to be part of the the Programme of the LA2028 Olympic Games and three incumbent sports to be dropped. The three legacy sports would, however, be given time to fix issues identified by the IOC EB and perhaps regain a slot on the programme.

The timeline for the decision on the LA28 additional sports would be announced in March/April 2022, and the decision would be taken by the IOC session in mid 2023. It was still unclear if sports would apply, like they did for Tokyo 2020, or if OCOG would invite sports to attend, like for Paris 2024.

Bernardi reported that he was closely watching what contenders were doing to present their sport for LA28. WFDF needed to improve the visibility of Flying Disc and needed to televise all 2022 events as well if possible.

One proposal was to pay for journalistic work on reporting daily about the WUCC 2022 in the online magazine "Inside the Rings," a magazine which had significant

readership within the Olympic movement. ExComm had initially agreed to paying for this engagement. WFDF also needed to increase its presence on Social Media.

Rauch added that WFDF was closely coordinating with USAU to connect with USOPC and was trying to get in the top of the mind for the LA28 decision.

Approval of Vice President (proposed Brian Gisel)

A motion was made by Rauch to select Gisel as Vice President for 2022, seconded by Jeong. The motion was approved unanimously with Gisel recusing himself from the vote.

Appointment of Overall Committee member

After losing some WFDF Overall committee members McLeod proposed to add Sam Kaye to the committee. Kaye's application was discussed and received support by Daniels who knows him personally.

A motion was made by Bulos to approve Sam Kaye as new WFDF Overall Committee member, seconded by Daniels. The motion was approved unanimously.

Broadcast in 2022 - Budget

Rauch announced that WFDF was planning to contract Rockwood for its broadcast efforts in 2022 for WMUCC, WUCC and TWG, but the details had not been finalized yet. He also informed that at the World Games the official broadcaster would only show the finals but not the early matches. WFDF was working with IWGA and BOC to livestream this by itself and was analyzing how to finance that.

WFDF was in discussion with UltiWorld about a partnership to have a broader subscription channel for more flying disc video content to be offered globally.

A contract would be presented to the Board for approval within the next few weeks

Expansion of Media effort, formation of committee

WFDF needs to increase its media efforts. After discussing with Director of Communications and Global Media Jen Thomas, Rauch presented a plan to set up a Communications and Global Media Committee. This could bring more people with

expertise into the process, help create more content, e. g. video snippets, and publish it in new ways and on new channels to a younger audience. Sponsorship partners could be included and WFDF events should be used more to connect with WFDF's audience. Rauch was aware that it could be hard to find motivated and active contributors to this committee but it needed to be tried.

Continental Associations update: EFDF

Hermand reported that EFDF had voted on their new statutes and had registered the federation in Austria in December 2021. In January 2022 the annual Congress took place with Board elections and the first Board meeting was planned for the near future.

In 2022 EUF will hold its Ultimate Masters championships in Poland and its U17 championships in conjunction with WFDF, also in Poland.

EFDF is acting as an umbrella federation for EUF and EDGF. These federations are extraordinary members of EFDF and will remain responsible of their respective disciplines.

HFDF Proposal 2023 and 2024 Universities event and EUSA Games

The Hungarian Flying Disc Federation (HFDF) had proposed to WFDF to apply to EUSA through the Hungarian University Sports Federation to have Ultimate included as a demonstration sport with six university teams in the 2024 EUSA Games in Debrecen, Hungary. In 2023 a qualification event would take place at the University of Debrecen, which would be observed by EUSA and FISU.

Bernardi emphasized that this could give WFDF the chance to stage the first University World Ultimate championships in 2026 and perhaps have the discipline included at the FISU World University Games (formerly Universiade) after 2026. Also, the EUSA Beach Games Beach Ultimate could be included.

Bernardi added that HFDF had approached WFDF rather than EFDF as the registration of EFDF had happened too late to be a signatory of the Declaration of Intent with HFDF and HUSF. For future European multisport games EFDF would be the partner.

Multisport Games perspective for Flying Disc sports

WFDF is recognized by nearly all multi-sport organizations IOC, FISU, IMGA, IWGA, TAFISA, GAISF, CIJM and ANOC, and has connections to EUSA and EOC. Flying Disc will be part of TWG 2022 in Birmingham (USA), TWG 2025 in Chengdu (CHN) and the European Masters Games in Tampere (FIN) 2023 (Disc Golf). Flying Disc is either planned or proposed to participate at the WMG in Kansai (JPN, postponed), Pan-American Masters Games Rio de Janeiro 2022 (BRA, postponed), EUSA Games 2024 in Debrecen (HUN), TAFISA European Sport for All Games Perugia (ITA) 2022 (Freestyle), CIJM Mediterranean Beach Games 2023, Heraklion (GRE), and ANOC World Beach Games 2023 in Indonesia.

The future of the existence of GAISF Multisport Games is uncertain, e.g. World Urban Games, because the existence of GAISF as organization has been questioned. Should GAISF be dissolved, it should not have negative impact on WFDF. It is possible, that GAISF games will be organized by other multi-sports federations.

WFDF Development Programme 2021

Bernardi asked board members to send in ideas and proposals by end of February for the development programme which could be funded by in part by the IOC contribution. In March WFDF will send grant requests to its member national federations.

Reports and Updates

Athletes' Commission Report

At the WUCC 2022 there would be elections for the members of the Athletes' Commission. Usually three of the six members would get elected, but since the last election could not take place due to the cancellation of WFDF events it was unclear if all six would be elected. This would be further discussed outside of the Board meeting.

SOTG Committee report, with update on iSOTG Day

The new SOTG Committee Chair Amoroso had been in contact with all 13 members of the committee individually and had a first committee meeting at the end of January. Upcoming tasks were the migration of the iSOTG day website to the WFDF web site, to clarify rules about the new SOTG disc design, and to make a pilot for

SOTG for Disc Golf at the World Team Disc Golf Championships 2022. This would be further discussed at a committee meeting at the end of February.

Rauch added that another goal should be to find SOTG Directors for WFDF events from within the region of the respective events. It was important to spread SOTG director's expertise around the world and at the same time would reduce costs.

Woldt clarified that the latest list she had proposed for Spirit Directors had only individuals who would be at the respective events in other capacities or were locals which would reduce costs significantly.

Women in Sport Commission Report

Malone announced that the Gender Equity Toolkit had been translated into Spanish and French and translations into four more languages (Swahili, Hungarian, Chinese and Portuguese) were being worked on.

Bernardi commented that the Hungarian federation had approved of the Hungarian translation. He also suggested to translate the title of the toolkit into the respective language.

At the last Board meeting Malone had introduced the survey "Inclusion of athletes with a Difference in Sexual Development (DSD) and Transgender athletes in elite sport" by Swansea University in Wales. It had been decided that the call to participate would be sent out to the flying disc community in early 2022. Malone announced she would send an email to the Board members and asked everyone to pass it on within relevant communities.

Malone commented on the WFDF web site that she considered it very important to be able to quickly upload and publish information. Conversations about the web site should be in the hall.

Continental Association Reports

PAFDF

Bulos reported that at the last PAFDF elections two new board members were elected. At-large board members would be elected next time to have an overlap of experienced board members with newly elected. She had held two meetings to brief the new board members. Potential new national federations were Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Belize. PAFDF planned to establish more social media presence, set up the email address pafdf@wdf.sport and perhaps have a web site under wdf.sport. She

noted that Mexico had announced elections at the beginning of 2022 but they had not been held. She would follow up with Mexico on this topic together with Bernardi.

AOFDF

Morooka announced that he was serving his last term as AOFDF president and retire at the end of 2023. AOFDF was searching for new committee members. In March IMGA would visit Japan to decide on a new date for the World Master Games in Kansai. The Asian Games 2022 will take place in China and in 2026 in Japan. AOFDF was negotiating with the respective organizing committees if and how Flying Disc could be included. Flying Disc would be a demonstration sport at the Asian Beach Games 2022 in China.

Jeong commented that the Asian Games were very important as they made it easy for smaller nations to be included and to get more recognition.

Bernardi reminded that it was important for WFDF's national members to achieve recognition by their national Olympic committees. He expected Italy to be recognized soon and in the near future perhaps Spain.

EFDF

(previously discussed)

AAFDA

(no report)

Disc Sport Committee Reports

Disc Golf

Rauch presented the report submitted by Mead. It listed the nine Disc Golf Committee members and their responsibilities. A total of 28 national teams have registered for the WFDF 2022 World Team Disc Golf Championships, the largest number of nations ever gathered in one place at the same time to play Disc Golf. The DG Committee is working together with the SOTG Committee to pilot a SOTG scoring system which will be implemented at WTDGC. Currently four event organizers are offering to trial this new scoring system. Offers are still being accepted. Disc golfer Paige Pierce had reached fourth place at the TWG Athlete of the Year contest. Mead thanked all who worked hard for Pierce to get so far. But he was certain that with better communication next year's candidate could advance further.

Overall

The next Overall Committee's meeting would be in two weeks. Sweden had expressed interest to attend World Overall Championships in San Diego, California. McLeod remarked that MTA and Accuracy was being played in Iran. He was looking forward to connecting with the respective players there.

Freestyle

The Freestyle Committee had met a week ago and had two more meetings scheduled. The committee was asking to receive updated information on the WFDF events as it planned to present some Freestyle activities at these events. Particularly the junior event in Poland seemed to be suitable to attract young players and make them also aware of Freestyle. Daniels informed that the official WFDF Freestyle World Champion would be crowned at WOC. The Freestyle Players Association championships would be in Tel Aviv, Israel, in Fall 2022. Freestyle won a medal at the United through Sport (UTS) World Virtual Youth Festival 2021.

Beach Ultimate

Raflo thanked the parties involved for trying to make the World Beach Ultimate Championships 2022 happen for as long as possible. He noted that the cancellation of WBUC meant there would be no qualification event for the World Beach Games. Bernardi agreed that this would be a problem for the World Beach Games in 2023 but acknowledged the logistical issues made it unfeasible.

Guts

(no report)

Treasurer's report - Preliminary 2021, January 2022 YTD

Rauch presented the preliminary 2021 results. The net loss for the year was US\$ 147,000 compared with the revised budget which had projected a loss of almost US\$ 165,000. Revenue in 2021 was US\$ 83,000, less than 20% of what was originally budgeted. As of the beginning of 2022, WFDF had around US\$ 280,000 of cash and investments.

The audit would start on March 21st, much earlier than usual and, given the low numbers of transactions in 2021, it should not take long.

The WFDF bookkeeper Deborah Gray was retiring but agreed to continue until WFDF could find a new bookkeeper. A number of interviews had been done with individuals and outside firms, but so far no suitable solution had been found.

WFDF had also looked into reducing wiring costs and had started to use Xe.com which worked quite well. But WFDF was still trying to find a bank that would set up a

Euro account for WFDF. The process of WFDF collecting tournament and player fees was working well, but it did provide some extra burden on the Events team for having to process all the transactions through different systems.

Next meetings/wrap-up

ExComm: 12/13 Mar; Board: 23/24 Apr

Closing at 01:20 CET

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum
WFDF Secretary