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**Saturday, October 16, 2021**

USA HI: 11:00; USA CA, CAN BC: 14:00; USA CO, CAN Calgary: 15:00; USA NY, MI, VA: 17:00; DOM: 17:00; UK, IRL: 22:00; GER, SRB, FRA: 23:00; UGA: 00:00 (Sunday, October 17th, 2021); UAE: 01:00 (Sunday, October 17th, 2021); SIN: 05:00 - JPN: 06:00 - KOR: 06:00 (Sunday, October 17th, 2021)

**Board members present:**

Robert "Nob" Rauch (chair), Kate Bergeron, Brian Gisel, Thomas Griesbaum, David Raflo, Fumio Morooka, Rob McLeod, Liam Grant, Lori Daniels, Nicole Bulos, Yoonee Jeong (via proxy), Haude Hermand (via proxy for part of call), Caroline "Caz" Malone (via proxy for part of call and with Camila Paiva F. Costa listening in on her behalf)

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

**Board members absent/excused:**

Alex Matovu, Wolfgang Maehr, Adam Swanson, Jamie Nuwer, Charlie Mead

**Call to order (time: 23:05 CET)**

Quorum reached with 13 votes of 10/18 needed.

**Report by the President**

Nob welcomed everybody and thanked all for participating. He announced that the next Board meeting was planned for the weekend after the WFDF elections closed in December.

**Decisions between meetings**

No decisions between meetings taken to the Board of directors meeting.

**Minutes of the meeting Board of Directors - 6 June 2021 (already approved electronically)**

Presented for reference.

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## **Minutes of last Congress - 21 August 2021**

A motion was made by Bergeron to approve the Minutes of last Congress - 21 August 2021 and to send them on the WFDF members, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board**

### **WFDF Events Team Report**

Rauch expressed hope that WFDF would be able to run events in 2022 as planned and its members would be able to travel and attend. Besides the WFDF events there would be The World Games and the World Master Games.

Woldt reported that the European Team Disc Golf Championships (ETDGC) 2021 had finished and WFDF was planning two more events in 2021: United through Sports - World Virtual Youth Festival 2021 (WVYF) and WFDF Inaugural 2021 Virtual Sport World Team Disc Golf Championships.

The UTS WVYF would be run just like last year. She expected an increase in participation and asked the attendees to find more people who wanted to take part. Registration would close in a few weeks. Fourcampré-Maye was in charge of handling WFDF's participation.

Rauch asked that in the press release the age bracket of the participants should be clarified. Woldt confirmed that this would be included in the press release to be published on the upcoming Monday.

Woldt then announced plans to host the WFDF Inaugural 2021 Virtual Sport World Team Disc Golf Championships. The event would be run on the free app Disc Golf Valley by Latitude 64. People within a country would join to run a national qualification round. The top two men and top two women in each country would then constitute the country team for the second medal round during which four different courses would be played. The app is free to download and there would be no participation fee. The event is planned to be announced at the end of October.

Rockwood asked if there were plans to broadcast the event. Rauch explained that the event would not be in real time and there would only be a leader board hosted by UDisc.

Bernardi added that IOC had issued a press release in which they announced that they would be pushing for virtual sports by the appointment of a head director. Also,

Virtual Sports was seen by IOC as different to eSports in that it would include physical activity such as using a bike trainer in front of a screen with real time information. McLeod added that he knew of a Playstation game for Disc Golf where participants needed to make a swinging move to virtually throw a disc.

A motion was made by McLeod to approve hosting the WFDF Inaugural Virtual Sport World Team DG Championships, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Woldt advised that registration for all four 2022 WFDF Ultimate events had opened. The World Master Ultimate Club Championships (WMUCC) was oversubscribed. It needed to be either capped or LOC would have to find extra fields and accommodations.

Registration for World Ultimate Club Championships (WUCC) was slower as some nations were still in the decision process. However, some members had announced to send more teams if slots became available. Attempts would be made to get to the 128 teams as planned. Gisel expressed confidence that 128 teams would be reached.

Registration for World Beach Ultimate Championships (WBUC) had just opened and it was too early to know how many teams would sign up. However, New Zealand and Australia had stated they would not come due to problems with travelling internationally. For World Junior Ultimate Championships (WJUC) registrations were coming in slowly.

For the World Team Disc Golf Championships (WTDGC) Woldt planned to send out a bulletin to WFDF's members within the next few days. WTDGC would have 16 teams of six players. The World Overall Flying Disc Championships (WOC) was expected to attract around 100 participants and would soon be announced to the members.

Morooka informed that it would be proposed to postpone the World Master Games in Kansai to 2026 for various reasons: The pandemic still made it hard to plan things, many venues were already booked out in 2022, and there would be conflicts with other events in the following years until 2026. But the postponement has not been decided yet.

Woldt planned to send out calls for bids for the 2023 and 2024 events by the end of November.

The Event Team had set up a list with expected staff attendance for the 2022 events. Woldt hoped this would help to keep expenses low.

## **Beach Ultimate rules and Appendix**

Raflo reported that the rules and appendix had been finalized and approved by Beach Ultimate Committee with the help of Rueben Berg and Woldt. Rauch confirmed that the rules looked complete and were a step in moving towards consistency across the globe. A motion was made by Raflo to approve the Beach Ultimate rules and Appendix, seconded by Daniels. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Rauch explained that the IOC had been quite specific that introduction of new sports in future Olympic Games would need to fit within the overall 10,500 athlete quota and be able to use already existing facilities 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 would need to be highly flexible about how it would get a chance to enter the Games, and would consider quotas, format, field size, potential changes of rules, and number of teams.

Gisel presented the idea of a 4 on 4 showcase version of mixed Ultimate with a smaller field and a shorter stall count. To be more TV friendly the game would be timed. It would be great to try this out, get feedback and perhaps even film it. Therefore USAU had been asked if it was possible to run a game during their upcoming national championships. Rauch informed that ExComm was supportive of this idea but it needed Board approval.

A motion was made by Grant to approve the showcase format and the test game next week, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **WFDF Social Awareness Messaging Policy**

Gisel presented a proposal for a WFDF Social Awareness Messaging Policy. It creates a structure under which WFDF can deal with social messages athletes want to convey during WFDF events. This policy gives a framework under which WFDF can work and athletes know how to proceed. Past events have already demonstrated socially oriented seminars and workshops and could serve as a template for more organized programs.

Individuals would approach WFDF with a proposal. A three person panel would discuss and decide on the proposal. If approved the panel would work with the LOC how to get the resources to make the proposal happen. If during an event individuals did not follow the procedures, the Tournament Rules Group would decide quickly how to deal with it.

Rauch clarified that this policy would only be in effect for WFDF events, not for multi-sport events such as TWG and also not for events of WFDF's national members. He applauded the core of the policy, giving WFDF clear basis to deal with any activities, and he only saw a few minor changes needed that had been communicated.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the policy subject to a few minor changes to be agreed in the coming week, seconded by Bulos. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Bernardi stated that so far 82 census reports had been received from 100 members. He noticed that some WFDF members had reported numbers vastly different to former years and that some could not be reached through their official contact addresses anymore, making it time consuming to find out the new address. Three members had not replied to any communication attempts for a few years.

So far roughly US\$30,000 in membership dues had been received. The switch to the new bookkeeping system had caused a slight delay in receiving the dues but the system was working well now.

#### **Treasurer's report - September 2021 YTD**

Bergeron reported that WFDF's expenditures was close to the planned budget, which was a deficit for 2021. WFDF was trying to minimize its spending. Bookkeeping had been migrated to the software QuickBooks Online which allowed collaborative working on the numbers between treasurer, bookkeeper, administration team and event team.

The bookkeeper, Deborah Gray, will retire at the end of 2021. WFDF had interviewed a few people and hoped to find a new bookkeeper by the end of November 2021.

Tax form 990 for tax-exempt organizations was almost done, with the audit and paper work for 2020 finalized, and WFDF will soon file with IRS.

Bergeron asked if membership dues would return to full payment in 2022. Rauch replied that under the new permanent dues structure WFDF had reduced fees for smaller members and expected larger members to be able to pay normal fees in 2022.

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

Hermand reported that EFDF had submitted a draft of the new statutes to WFDF ExComm for review. It had been approved very quickly. EFDF would then have its members approve the statutes at an Extraordinary Congress on November 17. After approval EFDF would be registered in Austria as quickly as possible.

Hermand then added that there had been some Disc Golf events by EDGF and some Ultimate events by EUF in 2021 and more events were planned for 2022. Daniels asked if Hermand was in touch with Freestyle representatives which she confirmed.

Bernardi added that a European Freestyle federation could easily be added to the structure of EFDF just like EDGF and EUF.

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

Bernardi provided information about the Mediterranean multi-sport games and stated that he planned to found the Mediterranean Flying Disc Confederation on November 5<sup>th</sup> in Rome, Italy, by WFDF members Greece, Malta, Italy, Egypt and Spain. This would be an in-person meeting and the MFDC would have its legal seat in Rome. Through MFDC Flying Disc would have a chance to be included in the Mediterranean Beach Games and increase its visibility. In some countries the Mediterranean Games are much more important than European Games.

### **Membership issues: MEX**

Bernardi and Bulos had analyzed the reports received about unconstitutional activities around recent elections in Mexico and had approached both parties involved. This confirmed that the legitimacy of the current acting board was doubtful. Both parties had been informed by PAFDF that Mexico continues on a status of not in good standing with the WFDF and they agreed to resolve the situation but have not yet done so.

Bulos asked WFDF to make the Mexican community aware that they are not in good standing. It was discussed how this should happen (through the web site or an email

to the Mexican members). It was discussed if not being in good standing would also mean that Mexican athletes could not attend WFDF's events in the coming year. Bernardi mentioned that the IOC recommends that problems within a federation should not stop its athletes from attending events.

Rauch suggested to send an information to the Mexican federation that they were not in good standing and that their athletes might not be able to attend WFDF events in 2022 if they did not resolve the situation by the end of November. With no reply within the next two weeks WFDF would then inform the Mexican community about the situation. He also suggested to leave this and further action to the approval of WFDF ExComm.

### **WFDF Development Programme 2021**

Bernardi presented the list of development proposals which had been obtained by the Sports for All Commission. He asked for approval as the money from IOC needed to be spent reported about in 2021. The total sum was US\$ 8,000 and would be split among Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Haiti, Bolivia, India and the Asia-Oceanic Flying Disc Federation.

A motion was made by Daniels to approve the WFDF Development Programme 2021, seconded by McLeod. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Upcoming Board Elections - election policy**

Bernardi presented the updated version of election policy. The main changes are that nomination and endorsement must come from the candidate's country of origin or where she or he has lived at least for one year. Also only voting members can endorse and support candidates. These changes were also a result of the Good Governance reviews.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the updated election policy for this upcoming elections, seconded by Raflo. The motion was approved unanimously.

Rauch reminded the board about which positions were up for voting and he asked any incumbents to inform the Executive Director within a week if they planned to run again or will no longer run again.

### **Reports and Updates**

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## **Athletes' Commission Report**

After WFDF had approved mixed gender pulling for Ultimate at TWG, EUF had decided to trial that at EUCF two weeks before the meeting. It went well according to a feedback survey. Grant recommended to watch the streamed games and see how mixed pulling worked. The Mixed finals in particular were very exciting to watch.

## **SOTG Committee report, with update on iSOTG Day**

Rauch referred to the written report. The committee was planning to provide the Spirit of the Game Directors for the Ultimate events in 2021 together with the WFDF Event Team. Planning had started for the International Spirit of the Game Day (iSOTG) on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Maehr had informed Rauch that he intended to step down at the end of his term in December 2021.

## **Women in Sport Commission Report**

Malone reported that the commission was formalizing roles to give more structure and focus to the commission members. She expected this to improve the efficiency in planning and organizing gender equity and other events during the WFDF championships in 2022.

## **Media and Broadcast Plans for 2022**

Rockwood expressed interest to serve on the WFDF NomCom 2021. He had been working on the broadcasting for the three major WFDF ultimate events next year: Beach Worlds, World Games, and WUCC. Since all would take place in the USA he expected this could attract an American company as a presenting sponsor.

He had been working together with ICARUS Sports of Athens, Greece on a three-minute overview of WFDF and ultimate, which they produced from footage WFDF had supplied. It was very interesting to see what non-Ultimate media professionals made of this sport. The result of this cooperation was broadcast in September 2021 to an audience of up to 1.3 billion households around the world.

## **IT Update**

Rauch referred to the written report from the WFDF IT Administrator Tobiasiewicz. The website backend still needed some work as well as content updates and a



cleanup of the world record section. Some email problems had been resolved. The sub website for the rules was being worked on and possibly could be moved to the new web site by November.

Rauch suggested that the IT Committee needed to be reconstituted to give more support to the IT Administrator.

### **Continental Association Reports**

Asia Oceania Flying Disc Federation (AOFDF) had conducted live stream sessions “Equity, Diversity and Inclusion” by the Womens Commission on June 27<sup>th</sup> and another session “Spirit of the Games” on July 4<sup>th</sup> by the SOTG Committee. Further online sessions would be held by other committees. A general meeting was planned for November to decide on next year’s events and to hold elections.

European Flying Disc Federation (EFDF) is planning an assembly. (see above)

On the Pan American Flying Disc Federation (PAFDF), Bulos passed on a request from Colombia if they could get discs with the WFDF logo to use at an IOC event. The Junior Pan American Games would be held in Cali, Colombia at the end of November and it was proposed to have an exhibition game, a small Junior Ultimate tournament and Ultimate beginner clinics for spectators. Rauch was certain that it was too late to deliver discs unless someone would be travelling in that direction. Bulos saw a chance this could work out and would discuss further details with Woldt.

All Africa Flying Disc Federation (AAFDF) planned to have its General Assembly at the end of October and would invite WFDF ExComm to attend online.

### **Disc Sport Committee Reports**

Rauch presented the Disc Golf report submitted by Mead. The composition of teams for the next World Team Disc Golf Championships (WTDGC) 2022 in Croatia would be changed by eliminating the need to sign up one Junior and to add one Woman athlete. The DG Committee had conducted a short Parasport Survey which had just closed. Detailed results were expected by November.

Daniels reported that the Freestyle Committee had discussed with Woldt the possibilities of Freestyle juniors to participate in the UTS World Virtual Youth Festival 2021. All Freestyle contacts had received the information and Daniels saw a chance to get more remote groups to participate. FPA would have elections soon and Daniels expected that she might not be re-elected as at-large Board member.

Rauch presented the Guts report. The Guts Committee had started to upload all Guts footage to a data center. Also, the Guts YouTube Channel was up and running. The committee expected this to increase the outreach and to spread information about Guts. In a new project an app should be created to keep track of game stats. The committee was also trying to stay in touch with the Guts groups around the world and to find new ones such as a group in Iran. There were plans to run events in 2022.

McLeod reported about a meeting with the Tournament Director for the World Overall Championships (WOC) 2022 in San Diego. A new date was needed as the proposed date conflicted with other events. Since one member of the Overall Committee had stepped down McLeod was looking for a replacement. He had recently been contacted by players in Iran who were doing Self Caught Flights.

### **Other Business**

Bernardi reminded the board that the members of the Athletes' Commission needed to be newly elected at next year's WUCC and that the call for nominations should be sent early next year so that athletes would have enough time to think about running for the AC. Usually 3 athletes would be elected at WUCC and 3 more at WUGC. It was yet unclear how this would be handled after the 2 year hiatus, so it will be discussed.

### **Next meetings**

ExComm: 13/14 Nov; Board: 18/19 Dec

**Closing: 01:15 CET**

Submitted by WFDF Secretary Thomas Griesbaum