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**Minutes for the ExComm meeting January 23, 2022**

9am PST / 12pm NY EST / 6pm CET / 9pm GST

**Attending:**

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

**Call to order**

18:05 CET

**Overview by the President**

President Rauch opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

**Decisions between meetings (Rauch)**

After thorough discussion between the WFDF Event Team, ExComm and the Local Organizing Committee, the World Beach Ultimate Championships 2022 (WBUC) had been cancelled. There had been a high number of late team withdrawals and significantly reduced income collected from teams and players registered, so there just wasn't a critical mass of teams to provide a World Championship caliber competition.

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

**Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes NOV 13, 2021 meeting**

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes November 13, 2021, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Review of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes DEC 18, 2021 meeting**

The minutes were presented for review by ExComm.

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## **Finance: Treasurer's End of Year 2021 report**

Bergeron reported that due to the low number of transactions that would need to be reconciled for 2021 she could finalize the financial year sooner than usual and have the auditor start his work. She expected the projected loss for 2021 to be slightly lower than expected.

She noted that there was a large amount of cash in the bank but this was due to WFDF collecting event fees for 2022. These fees would be forwarded to the local organizers or be returned to participants of cancelled events. They would be kept on a separate account to facilitate the auditing. She is working with the auditor to provide for a way to designate such cash as segregated.

Rauch expressed concern about using PayPal because of its potentially high fees. Bergeron and Woldt explained that in many countries wiring money or sending cheques was not feasible and PayPal was very popular. Also, for such transfers the PayPal fees were paid by the participants.

Bergeron added that she was looking into the international money transfer service of Xe for WFDF to use. Rauch suggested we also continue looking for a Euro bank account.

The engagement of a new bookkeeper to replace Grey who was retiring hadn't happened yet despite the help of USAU and a posting on the website.

Rauch recommended to start the audit process soon and file and post the Form 990.

The upcoming census was then discussed and the effects the new online book keeping tool might have on sending invoices.

Woldt asked if the national financial contacts could be updated to ensure that automatically created invoices would reach the right person. Rauch suggested that Woldt, Bernardi and Janković work on updating these contact addresses.

## **WFDF 2022 events Update**

Woldt reported that the cancellation of the World Beach Ultimate Championships 2022 (WBUC) had mostly received support. She was working with LOC to close out the financial side and work on refunds. She would pass on the numbers to Rauch. Woldt noted that some countries who had concentrated solely on WBUC now were interested in sending teams to WMUCC and/or WUCC.

For WUCC players' fees were coming in slowly which was a bit of a concern because the money would be needed soon. All players' fees would be refundable up until the end of February 2022.

Fourcampré-Maye was working on WFDF's U20 world championships together with the European Ultimate Federation who will host a U17 European championship, both in Wroclaw, Poland, at the same time. The event was planned for 20 U20 teams and 20 U17 teams, but Woldt expected more to register. LOC can cope with more teams as satellite fields are available within reach of public transport. Woldt mentioned criticism by HFDF that the move of WJUC from the Dominican Republic to Poland had not gone through a bidding process. Gisel offered to explain the reasoning behind this decision to HFDF.

Virtual Sport World Team Disc Golf Championship had started a few days ago and so far the numbers were lower than expected. Woldt planned to post more information on social media. Rauch suggested to keep registration open to as many countries as possible and to approach PDGA as well as USAU.

For World Masters Ultimate Club Championships enough teams had paid their fees to run the event and still fees were pending. World Ultimate Club Championships still needed some late payers to reach the break even. Team sizes were smaller than planned but it was expected that teams would register more players once teams were confident that WUCC would take place.

The World Team Disc Golf Championships so far had 25 registered national teams, more than ever before.

The COVID working group had recommended that participants (athletes and volunteers) be vaccinated and show a recent negative test on arrival. It was discussed if instead of proof of vaccination a daily test was acceptable but not approved. Woldt announced she would draft a COVID hygiene protocol based on protocols from AFDA, USAU, EUF and Floorball.

Woldt then introduced Dominique Santini as potential new WFDF Sustainability Officer. Rauch explained that WFDF's current Sustainability Officer Johanna von Toggenburg had provided excellent work for the WBUC in 2017 but her personal situation had changed in Lebanon and she could not invest further time for WFDF. With the background of Santini fitting very well she recommended not to call for applications but instead announce Santini as new Sustainability Officer. This would also provide WFDF with someone taking care of sustainability for its 2022 events.

A motion was made by Rauch to approve Dominique Santini as new WFDF Sustainability Officer, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **WFDF Rules of Ultimate 2021-2024 Appendix**

Gisel reported that there were no major changes in the 2022 Appendix but there could be larger ones in 2023. Bergeron suggested for 2023 to change the wording “female” and “male” to “female identifying” and “male identifying”, moving from minimum age 12 to 14 in the U20 division and to split rules and procedures into separate documents.

Rauch noted that starting in 2023 the maximum team roster limit would be reduced to twenty-six (26) players for WFDF events and effective in 2022 the Bronze Medal (3rd Place/4th Place) games could be excluded from the schedule if necessary due to scheduling. Gisel explained that events were getting bigger and reducing the roster size was one countermeasure. It was also following USAU recently adopted limitations. As for the bronze medal game, he felt it necessary to have this as an option in the rules but did not expect this to be used at events commonly.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the WFDF Rules of Ultimate 2021-2024 Appendix, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Game Advisors Training for 2022**

Gisel reported that there was an opportunity to host a Game Advisor training session in March during a The World Games tune-up event in Germany as well as in the UK later in Spring. There was also interest from Columbia and Malaysia. He was looking to find female GAs to also attend these events. Rauch pointed out that these events could be paid or supported from the WFDF development budget, partly from money received by the IOC. Gisel will submit a proposal to the Development Commission.

## **Broadcast in 2022 – Budget**

Gisel reported that at WUCC 2022 it was planned to have two showcase game fields for streaming by WFDF, perhaps one or two more fields with streaming provided by another partner, e.g. Fanseat.

At The World Games the IWGA will only support streaming of the last two days, possibly even leaving out the semi-finals, and WFDF needs to find a way to video the first three days. The WFDF broadcast crew could apply as TWG volunteers to receive access to the TWG area and stream 12 games and create a few short shows. Together with providing accommodation and food this would come at a cost of around US\$ 25,000. Managing Director Broadcasting and Marketing Rockwood will be reviewing the feasibility, provided that IWGA gives approval to do so.

It was then discussed how a potential flying disc subscription channel could be created, possibly with UltiWorld as partner. TWGA could be the kick off event for the eventual development of such a Flying Disc streaming channel. The discussion resulted in the decision to propose a draft for an annual contract with UltiWorld by the end of February 2022. Gisel would set up a preliminary budget and circulate it among EcComm.

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

The final decision which additional sports would be included at LA28 will be made in 2023. It was made clear by IOC that this decision would be taken solely by the LA28 organizing committee. WFDF was reaching out to members within the Olympic movement to get as much information as possible. Crawford of USAU had had a constructive meeting with the new head of USOPC. Bernardi reported about some of his findings and made recommendations what WFDF needed to do to keep chances to be included as high as possible.

In March/April 2022 a formal decision would be made by IOC about how LA28 will move forward with selecting the additional sports. Until then WFDF should try to use all of its contacts. He also suggested again to set up an Olympic Work Group. Bernardi suggested to pay the online magazine “Inside the Games” to report daily on the WUCC. This magazine is being monitored by IOC closely. Having reports about WUCC and possibly also about demos of 4-on-4 games in it would make WFDF more visible to IOC and alike and have a tremendous impact.

A motion was made by Rauch to approve US\$ 7,000 for “Inside the Games” coverage of WUCC, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Latest Updates on IWGA/GAISF/ARISF/IOC/ITA/WADA/SportAccord**

Bernardi reported that major changes were expected to happen within the network of international sports federations. These changes would not be expected to have any negative influence on WFDF’s standing. But it was important that WFDF kept in compliance and created new ties soon. IOC was urging its recognized sports federations to sign a contract with ITA, the International Testing Agency. WADA had demanded from WFDF to prove that Russia was not participating as a country in any of its events, even at Virtual Disc Golf event.

Disc Golf needs to be included in anti-doping projects, especially education, as there had been a positive test at a PDGA event in Switzerland. It had been made clear to

WADA that WFDF had not been involved with this event. But WFDF needed to act at the upcoming WTDGC.

WFDF also needed to become more active in parasports. Woldt suggested to put out a call for bids for a Wheelchair Ultimate championship. Bernardi mentioned two potential bidders for such an event.

### **New memberships developments**

Rauch greeted the new members Mauritius Flying Disc Association (MFDA) and the Namibia Flying Disc Federation (NFDF).

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

Bernardi reported that US\$ 600 from three members were still outstanding. He was working on getting these members to pay.

### **WFDF 2022 Development Programme**

Rauch advised that money granted to Panama had not been used in 2021 and it was approved to give this money to a proposed project from Mauritius.

### **Next meeting**

Board: 12/13 FEB; ExComm: 12/13 MAR  
Closing at 20:15 CET

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum  
WFDF Secretary