

**WFDF 2022 Annual Congress
Cincinnati, USA
Saturday, July 23, 2022**

1 Call to order

President Rauch welcomed all attendees and apologized for the tight schedule that won't allow interaction during the Congress in the way participants of the WFDF Congress usually would. After giving brief technical instructions, Rauch reminded about the Q&A section at the end of the meeting when the discussion will be open.

2 Voting Protocol

Secretary Griesbaum gave an introduction to the voting protocol and explained the technical requirements.

3 Roll call of National Associations present & confirmation of votes allotted

See Annex 1 – list of participants.

4 2021 Congress Minutes (already approved)

The 2021 Congress Minutes were presented and approved before the meeting via online vote.

5 Decisions taken by Congress between 2021 and 2022 Congresses

Main topics were covered between the two Congress meetings, re-election of the Board of Directors.

WFDF proudly welcomed the newest members, Mauritius, Mali and Burundi along with the approval of the MFDC associate membership.

6 Report by the President

Rauch started his report by speaking of the COVID-19 impact on the World population and how it affected the world of sports. Major sports events were postponed, some of them even canceled, and WFDF community couldn't avoid changes that were happening in the world.

WFDF itself suffered consequences since there were no ongoing matches but highlighted the fact that events were restarted in 2022. Having Congress offline instead via Zoom like it was in last two years.

There are still some uncertainties on the COVID-19 situation but increased influence of global and national politics on sports and citizens' rights have affected every major decision nowadays.

Demands on Safeguarding, Non-discrimination, Equality, Sustainability, Conservation and Mitigation of Climate change are increasing and WFDF is responding accordingly.

Rauch presented the WFDF strategic goals and assured that people around WFDF is doing their best to accomplish them despite the challenges.

Actions and initiatives in 2022 were highlighted with a brief report on the media campaign [insidethegames.biz](https://www.insidethegames.biz), membership growth and the events calendar for the upcoming years.

Digital engagement as the one of the top priorities for the WFDF community but coming from the Good Governance that WFDF must continue.

7 Report by the Secretary General

WFDF Secretary General Bernardi started his report by expressing his gratitude for the participation of the member countries, but especially non-members countries. This shows that WFDF is active in acquiring new member federations.

Bernardi highlighted number of the Member National Federations - 103. Player figures growth has been hit by the pandemic, but it has been recovering since the beginning of the 2022.

Cooperation with members especially with the WFDF Continental Associations on membership applications, governance and development.

The significant result presents the establishment of the Mediterranean Flying Disc Confederation (MFDC) as Bernardi stated.

Bernardi provided a report on Multisport Games development, Status of the WFDF Commissions and International Cooperation which have been one of the most important tasks to accomplish from the Secretary Generals' perspective.

8 Review of 2022 Member Census

Rauch presented the 2022 WFDF Census data briefly. The detailed report has been sent to members before the 2022 Congress. A lot of interesting information has been collected in all areas since 2002.

However, the impact of the coronavirus pandemic was reflected in the membership numbers reported by the WFDF's member federations, dropping by a third and not recovering in the last year.

Even though besides pandemic there is a negative trend in players growth, the number of women has remained steady.

Rauch completed his report by stating that WFDF expects these numbers to bounce back with the resumption of international competitions in 2022.

9 Annual Risk Assessment

The WFDF Annual Risk Assessment was introduced ten years ago, and even though over time, it may seem as unnecessary, during the pandemic, it was crucial for WFDF survival throughout the current pandemic impact on the world's economy.

WFDF has been consistent in terms of the areas that were the focus but also flexible enough to make some essential adjustments.

There were eight risk areas that WFDF wanted to focus on:

1. Substantial contracts for delivering all of WFDF events
2. Safety of participants and staff
3. Ability to recruit and attract more volunteers
4. Increasing membership and participation
5. Improving WFDF financial viability
6. Protecting public image and reputation
7. Maintaining Spirit of the Game
8. Applying governance principles and compliance with regulatory requirements

WFDF must continue its transparency and professional governance procedures.

CONGRESS decision 01/22: The presented WFDF Annual Risk Assessment was approved unanimously.

10 Event Manager Report

11 Ultimate Committee Report

Woldt presented the 2022 year as a comeback year since the events have been restarted.

Getting back on track in 2022 has been essential to the growth and development of our sport and to continue to build on the momentum we had shown through 2018/2019. WFDF headed into 2021 quarter 4 with our sights set on a full program and began working on at least 6 events, but WFDF again found having to deal with setbacks and lockdowns as major 2nd and 3rd pandemic waves surged as winter approached.

Woldt presented in detail what happened with the planned events for 2021 and what are the ongoing and upcoming events in 2022.

WFDF can report a promising outlook on the 2023 and 2024 events seasons where calls to bid looking for hosts and venues produced a strong and encouraging list of bid candidates that are wanting to host all of WFDF's major events. WFDF will continue to focus on holding 2022 events successfully, safely and above all professionally while keeping a keen eye on the extended calendar of events.

12 Disc Golf Committee Report

Disc Golf now takes up a much larger space in the WFDF world and the events and responsibilities that we have taken on continue to challenge us and our ability to deliver all our work at a very high level.

Since 2016 Disc Golf within WFDF has grown from a static state to a significant contributor to Flying Disc events within WFDF and its member states.

After presenting DG Committee activities in last year, Mead praised professional work and delivery of the WFDF Events Team.

13 Reports from Other Disciplines

13a Beach Ultimate Report

The Beach Ultimate Committee was quite focused on the 2021 WBUC which was subsequently rescheduled to 2022 before being cancelled early this year. Under the leadership of the Beach Ultimate Committee Member Will Christopherson, a Beach Ultimate Rules Committee was formed and, after a great deal of assistance from WFDF Ultimate Rules Chair Rueben Berg, new versions of the Beach Ultimate Rules and Rules Appendix were drafted, approved by the Beach Ultimate Committee, and accepted by the Board of Directors.

13b Freestyle Report

Daniels presented the constitution of the Committee, frequency of gathering and planned events including Freestyle.

13c Guts Report

Daniels

13d Overall/Field Events Report

Discussing the future of Overall, McLeod presented the ideas for further development:

- Creating a template for single and two-day Overall events featuring fewer players/fewer events to make running an Overall much easier
- Creating a national Overall series so we can start growing the Overall in specific countries. There is already a national Overall event/scene in Sweden so we will be discussing making some inroads in Canada, USA, and Chinese Taipei.
- Continuing to spread awareness about what's possible with frisbee including promoting the idea of Frisbee Clubs and Frisbee Meets to appeal to schools with the hopes that they can kickstart their own events.

14 WFDF Anti-Doping Program and WADA Compliance

Bernardi presented the Anti-Doping Program and reiterated that all actions from WFDF's side serve the purpose of keeping WFDF in code-compliance with WADA.

WFDF is now in compliance with the WADA Anti-Doping that comes with the responsibility that all the athletes are provided with the sufficient educational opportunities.

15 WFDF membership updates

The membership update included a forecast of member National Federations hopefully applying for WFDF membership in 2022 and until year end 2023. The WFDF Development Programme shows great success here and WFDF will target Eastern Europe, the Balkan, Africa and Oceania as priorities in the coming years.

16 Bylaws Revision

Rauch presented the purpose of Revision: The Bylaws currently require that the business materials for Congress be circulated no later than two months prior to Congress and Member proposals by 75 days prior. We are proposing to change this to one month distribution and 60 days prior, respectively.

While WFDF realizes that many members are concerned about having enough time to review and discuss Congress materials, this also means that certain proposals that are developing may not be ready in time for the cutoff.

Also, in this age of instantaneous electronic communications, an extended period to ensure that communications are distributed and received is no longer necessary.

Finally, the Bylaws permit electronic votes of the Congress with only one month's notice and so this revision brings the two mechanisms into conformance.

17 Financial Report

Treasurer Bergeron presented the financial matters and provided updates on WFDF's financial situation

- a) 2022 Dues Update
- b) Presentation of year end 2021 and interim 2022 reports
- c) Vote: Approval of 2021 Audited Financial Statements

CONGRESS decision 02/22: The presented 2021 audited financial statements were approved unanimously.

- d) Interim 2022 report
- e) Vote: Approval of 2023 budget

CONGRESS decision 03/22: The presented 2023 budget was approved unanimously.

- f) Vote: Approval of 2022 Auditor

CONGRESS decision 04/22: The presented proposal for the 2022 auditor was approved unanimously.

18 Marketing and Broadcast Report

In 2022, WFDF has been very active with production planning and distribution dealmaking for the 2022 World Championship events.

After presenting the partnership deals for the upcoming events, Rockwood stated that WFDF goal with presented approach is to eventually remove the costs of broadcasting and distribution from the players' fees and instead have viewers pay to watch WFDF World Championships.

WFDF also must plan to have Mandarin-language distribution throughout Mainland China for WUCC.

19 Spirit of the Game Report

Amoroso presented the diligent work of the SOTG Commission and activities of the different working groups.

As for the development it is planned in two directions – online and offline along with the creation of the SOTG social media strategy aligned with the WFDF digital presence.

20 Women in Sport Commission

Besides the report of the Women in Sport Commission, Malone explicitly spoke about further projects from the Commissions' side concerning the global Flying Disc Community.

She asked the WFDF community to try to help with funds for human aid matters.

21 Athletes' Commission Report

Besides the Athletes' Commission election announcement for WUCC there was no report.

22 Continental Association Reports

a) AAFDF - Africa

Myburgh presented the status within All African members federation. As in the entire global sports community, AAFDF felt strong hit but as presented within the written report it is going forward.

There is a solid plan on disc distribution across Africa. AAFDF will continue working on getting new members association to join WFDF.

b) PAFDF – Pan America

Bulos reported ongoing negotiation with new potential WFDF members such as Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guyana, and Belize.

The website is in the process of creation with the specific regional events calendar that will help communication and promotion.

Bulos raised important question on coach development and the idea of approaching youth through schools.

Rauch added that WFDF is launching an online tool that will help coach education across the community but there are some members federation that developed this system already and they shared their inputs over the Congress.

USA and UK Ultimate have been advancing with their methods to gather more youth and attract more people getting into coaching flying disc.

UK Ultimate moved their level one coaching tool online completely and they are willing to share their material with anyone who needs assistance on this matter.

c) AOFDF – Asia-Oceania

Morooka presented detailed plan for the regional events in Asia and Oceania for the upcoming years but confirmed the numbers regarding members status despite not having any events last year.

Governance is being positive, and approach kept members dedicated to the flying disc community.

d) EFDF - Europe

Hermand highlighted the number one priority in European association which was restructuring and getting new Statute as well.

EFDF was focused on working closely with Bernardi on supporting and participating at the multisport events across Europe.

The activity and events calendar is busy for the 2023-2024 already.

23 Discussion Topic 1: Challenges and Opportunities Post-COVID-19

Representatives from USA, UK, Canada, Austria, Singapore, and Netherlands shared their challenges and experiences with attracting new people to the flying disc community.

Promoting formats such as 4v4 was highlighted as a way to attract more people through smaller groups.

Even USA Ultimate had an issue of keeping same people in our sports over the past two years.

Importance of the disc quality came as a recommendation from Canada while Belgian representative asked if there is a system within WFDF that can help with centralizing emails and overall yearly communication.

Administrative load became bigger within national federations and there is a need for more time to work on the development.

Participants also took the chance to thank WFDF for the effort in the past two years to keep flying disc community as firm as possible and to work on getting to the Olympics despite all odds.

24 Discussion topic 2: Ramifications of the decision by LA28 on the short list of potential new sport

President Rauch explained facts about the timeline of the procedure. There was no short list announced as of the time of the Congress.

WFDF would take further actions upon communications on such short list at a given time.

25 Other Business and Q&A

UK Ultimate has moved their coach education material completely online and is willing to make that available to anyone else in the world. It was discussed that other languages like French, Spanish, Portuguese etc. should be available for global education. Venezuela asked for Spanish education materials.

26 Adjournment

President Rauch adjourned the Congress wishing everybody all the best for the upcoming week at WUCC and thanking all participants for their attention and support.

****WFDF Committees and Commission written reports were presented in the Briefing Book.***