

## **Sunday June 19, 2022**

USA HI: 03:00, USA CA, CAN BC: 06:00; USA CO, CAN Calgary: 07:00, USA NY, MI, VA: 09:00, DOM: 09:00, UK, IRL, POR: 14:00, GER, SRB, FRA: 15:00, UGA: 16:00, UAE: 17:00, JPN: 22:00, KOR: 22:00

### **Board members present:**

Robert “Nob” Rauch (chair), Brian Gisel, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Jamie Nuwer, Rob McLeod, Fumio Morooka, Caroline “Caz” Malone, Yoonee Jeong, Alex Matovu, Liam Grant, David Raflo, Steve Taylor, Charlie Mead, Haude Hermand, Nicole Bulos

**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), Patrick Fourcampré-Maye (Event Coordinator)

### **Call to order (time: 15:05 CET)**

Quorum reached with 16 votes of 10/18 needed.

### **Report by the President**

President Rauch opened the WFDF Board of Directors and welcomed all participants.

### **Decisions between meetings**

(none)

### **Minutes of the meeting Board of Directors - 24 April 2022**

Minutes to be approved at the next WFDF Board of Directors meeting.

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

### **WFDF Events Team Report**

The upcoming WMUCC in Ireland would have 115 teams attending making this the largest WFDF Masters event ever. Preparations were running well and the athletes were looking forward to attending.

At WUCC in Cincinnati maximum 128 teams had registered, the same number as in 2018. In comparison prices had gone up but the LOC were trying to keep things simple with minimum spending. WFDF would host Congress on Saturday (July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022) morning with a reception on Friday evening. The new Ohio state transgender law was mentioned but the law would not be in force prior to WUCC and in any case would not apply to any participants of WUCC as it is primarily directed at high school and college students in the state.

The WJUC in Poland was sharing the venue and logistics with the U17 event of the European Ultimate Federation which created many synergies. The war in Ukraine was still a problem but the WJUC participants felt safe and it was not expected that refugees would affect accommodations in the Wroclaw area, which is over 1,000 km from the border. WJUC had 25 registered teams and together with the EUF U17 event 49 teams were expected.

With up to 26 teams at the World Team Disc Golf Championships the event had the biggest number of countries ever attending a Disc Golf event. There were chances that a team from Ukraine could attend with the male athletes to receive a special permission to leave the country for the event. WFDF partners Discraft and VC Ultimate intended to give discs and uniforms to the Ukrainian team and the LOC was looking for cheaper accommodation. Schedules for late changes in the number of teams were being prepared.

With these events happening shortly after each other the WFDF Events team would not be able to submit written event reports until September 2022.

Woldt noted that in response to WFDF's call for bids positive responses had been received, some from new countries, many from the Asia and Oceanic region. Some bids had not yet been endorsed by the respective NF. Woldt would discuss these bids with the respective committees. The World Beach Ultimate Championships 2023 had already been awarded to Huntington Beach with a date around the end of October.

All events in 2023 would be spread out, including the planned inaugural Wheelchair Ultimate Championships.

### **TWG 2022 Birmingham, AL, USA - Latest Developments**

All eight countries sending a national team to The World Games were well prepared. No visa or COVID related problems had been reported. Woldt noted that the TWG

organizers had set up strict COVID regulations. The Disc Golf demonstration spot at the World Games Plaza would be fully staffed by PDGA.

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

Rauch highlighted that the selection process of Extra Sports for LA28 will kick off soon. Announcing sports to be considered by the end of June. If the WFDF is on the short list, an official response should be submitted by the end of the July and meet for the presentations in August.

The LA28 LOC is expected to announce a short list of sports it will consider for the Programme by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and a final decision is expected in mid-2023. The WFDF will put forward Ultimate 4's due to the restrictions on quota, equipment and venue usage. Bernardi commented that WFDF needs to keep an eye on the athletes' quota, but also on the officials' quota. IOC and OCOG expressed what they want to achieve by including new sports. The easier a new sport can be included the more likely it will be chosen. Also medal opportunities for the host country is an important criteria and looking at past results the USA is expected to have good chances.

Rauch outlined the value proposition for Flying Disc against the stated selection criteria. Regarding venue, disc can be played on either the beach or grass and requires no special apparatus. WFDF can guarantee best athletes and safety. We have perfect gender equality since the mixed teams have been playing for years. And on relevance to California, a frisbee on the Beach in Southern California is quintessential SoCal.

AUDL signed a contract with the Legends group which will put money and support behind AUDL. That will help AUDL a lot e.g., with filling stadiums. To support WFDF's application, Rauch and Bernardi have been in Madrid for IWGA meeting and to meet with IOC Sports Department representatives.

### **WFDF 2022 Congress - Preparations and topics for discussion**

Rauch presented the agenda with business topics and two discussion topics "Challenges and Opportunities Post-COVID-19" and "Ramifications of the decision by LA28 on the short list". Griesbaum reported about the preparations for the hybrid aspects of Congress and the online voting being needed.

### **Treasurer's report - May 2022 YTD, Form 990, Audited Financials, Budget 2023**

Bergeron confirmed that the 2022 financials were following the planned budget. She reminded that the unusually high income was due to the fact that WFDF was collecting team and players fees for the first time but almost all of this money would be passed on to the event organizers.

Rockwood asked about the amount of US\$4,600 from donations and Bergeron explained that WFDF has received some earmarked money as non-profit and passes it on to an approved project accordingly.

Bergeron presented the audit and stated that the 2020 and 2021 audits without events were quick and easy.

There were no challenges except switching in accounting when WFDF started to receive funds for WBUC 2022 which was then cancelled.

**A motion was made by Bergeron to approve the Audit, seconded by Bulos. The motion was approved unanimously.**

2023 will be very busy since there will be lot of regional events. Dues and sponsorships were coming in again with some expectations for licensing on video rights. Bergeron presented expenses for travel costs, 2022 Congress and marketing.

Regarding a 5-year planning, there is a need for finding a new bookkeeper. Solution may be buying an accounting system to automate more and rely on human work less. Bergeron then discussed the proposed budget for up to the year 2027. Bottom line is that we expect positive net revenue in 2022 of US\$136,000, but deficits in the following years.

Rauch said that at the 2022 WUCC WFDF contracted with InsidetheGames.biz to bring a journalist to do daily reporting to provide more visibility for our sport and to enhance the coverage of WFDF.

**A motion was made by Malone to approve the 2023 budget, seconded by Jeong. The motion was approved unanimously.**

The Administrative Team had worked successfully to get the membership dues in but as always some members needed to be approached twice or more before they paid. There is a proposal for the events sanctioning fees to be raised but it was rejected.

Bergeron proposed to hire McMillen & Partner again since working with the company was a gain for the WFDF.

**A motion was made by Bergeron to approve to hire McMillen for the 2023 audit, seconded by Raflo. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **WFDF 2022 Athletes' Commission election principles**

With WFDF's desire to assure gender balance on the Athletes' Commission, Rauch explained that the election principles for the AC needed a revision. Nuwer reported that the language had been adjusted for people who are non-binary: If 2 members were of one gender the 3rd member must be opposite gender or diverse. Rauch noted that we could adjust the language so that it did not use "gender" as the basis for this balance criterion but rather the different divisions of play and he referred to his written proposal in the briefing book.

A motion was made by Malone to approve the proposed policy with the changes Rauch suggested, seconded by Nuwer. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **WFDF 2022 Anti-Doping Test Distribution Plan, WADA Code Compliance**

Nuwer presented the plan and added that so far, there had been no positive tests.

WFDF is expanding testing to Disc Golf. In the test distribution plan Bernardi has tried to keep number of tests to the bare minimum. Focus has been shifted on education while emphasizing the unfairness of doping.

Bergeron asked about usage besides THC and Nuwer explained that 3% of respondents of a survey had said they knew someone who had tried performance enhancing drugs.

Rockwood suggested that informing the athletes how to get a TUE would be helpful. Bernardi explained that documents in the players' package would take care of this. He added that there would be no testing in Disc Golf, only education. WADA is demanding strict education.

From the testing pool athletes WADA requests home address, training address, office address. WFDF operates a procedure where NFs are asked to nominate athletes from the eight countries going to TWG and the top two countries providing two athletes each. Participating athletes know requirements and are willingly helping. WFDF wants to stay a low-risk sport.

**A motion was made by Nuwer to approve the test distribution plan for the year, seconded by Jeong. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Bulos to approve the education plan, seconded by Malone. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Nuwer to approve the risk analysis, seconded by Raflo. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **Transgender Athlete and Differences in Sex Development (DSD) Athlete Policy**

WADA no longer requires testosterone testing and instead leaves it to the IFs of which many continue to do this testing. Nuwer explained in detail the Transgender Athlete and DSD Athlete Policy changes and added that IOC and WADA took a stance not to require testosterone tests. Science is not definitive about this matter. Nuwer explained that most changes update language to be in line with WFDF rules. There are added differences in the sex development to be in line with WADA language. No change on what athletes have to provide. TUE only needed if on prohibited substance.

Nuwer have looked at new policy with Women in Sports commission and they supported it. As the science is changing with more research, it is likely to be revised in the future.

**A motion was made by Malone to approve the new policy, seconded by Jeong. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **GAISF Update**

Bernardi reported that GAISF was considering its dissolution and has scheduled a special meeting in September. WFDF needed to decide what to vote for. IOC supported the dissolution. Chances were high that GAISF will be dissolved. It is likely that many Olympic IFs will walk away from GAISF if it were not to be dissolved.

The SportAccord convention would not be touched by a dissolution. It is separate from GAISF as Bernardi clarified.

Rauch added that if WFDF would not yet have received IOC recognition he might be concerned, but feels we are reasonably well-positioned. However, aspiring sports which do not yet have IOC recognition might find it more difficult to achieve recognition.

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## **TAFISA European Sport for All Games, Perugia, 23-29 September 2022**

Bernardi shared that the Freestyle was proposed as a demonstration sport for these games. WFDF will have a 10- or 20-person delegation there. In addition to that there is a promotional tournament in Milano with athletes coming from there to attend the games. Onsite expenses are covered except for travel costs.

## **IPC Classification code update for WFDF, IF Open days meetings in Bonn**

Bernardi shared his discussion with the IPC president. He explained to the IPC sport department where the WFDF is and where it stands with its governance.

WFDF status seems to be safe for next couple of years but must create a classification system and a classifier training system, preferably together with WFDF's scientific partner.

This is a must in order to have an inaugural Wheelchair Ultimate Championship event.

## **EUSA meeting updates, Ljubljana, including event proposals for Flying Disc**

Bernardi said that WFDF should finalize documents to be approved for 2024 EUSA games. In the future EFDF will be included in order to take over the communication and activities with EUSA.

## **WFDF Development Programme 2022**

Bernardi reminded that in WFDF's anti-doping activities it needed to involve the International Testing Agency (ITA). This had been approved in 2020 already but now it should become effective. For this year WFDF should obtain the minimum of ITA services to remain WADA code compliant.

Regarding Central American and Caribbean Beach Games (Regional games), Bulos said that PAFDF is looking to find at least six nations to attend.

Rauch mentioned that the total budget is US\$38,944.

**A motion was made by Gisel to approve the budget, seconded by Bulos. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Bernardi expressed his opinion in case WFDF is not able to have Beach Ultimate in the Central American Games, the money will be freed. Especially since there are proposals from China and Brazil to which the money could go.

### **Disc Golf Committee Staff Proposal**

Mead proposed adding new paid DG staff member as the amount of work has become greater. WTDGC is getting bigger and in the years between regional TDGC have started. Virtual World Championship will be annual along with additional requests. It takes a week of work to get all information for the World Disc Golf ranking twice a year. Per Mead explanation, one more staff member is needed to sustain the growth of DG.

Rauch said that he is not sure if WFDF can accommodate from a budget and structure standpoint. However, WFDF president agrees that this is a lot to be asked from the volunteers.

McLeod suggested to use funds for a few months and see how that person works. Perhaps WFDF can find a sponsorship.

Mead appreciated Rauch's point of view. He also explained that he didn't have the time to do all the work he wanted to do and that he doesn't feel good about that.

Grant asked if Disc Golf was generating enough money to cover the potential expenses, and Mead stated that there is more than it used to be. Some things have to change still and raising the WFDF profile within IOC helps.

## **Reports and Updates**

### **Athletes' Commission Report**

Written report by Grant covered main topics regarding Athletes' Commission.

### **SOTG Commission report**

Rauch reported about established working groups to achieve various tasks. SOTG Commission is looking for support of Ukrainian athletes.

### **Women in Sport Commission Report**



Malone commented on the SOTG committee report. She had information that one of the funds which the SOTG committee suggested to donate money to was supporting armed forces to which she disagreed. She would approach the SOTG Chair about this

She presented a letter with a call for support of Afghan Flying Disc athletes which were being targeted by the Taliban and needed to hide without enough income to support themselves. This letter should be shared individually.

The Gender Equity Toolkit and its translations were being accepted favorably. A German translation was currently being worked on.

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

Rockwood presented a report highlighting three tournaments coming up. Press release following up this meeting was outlining WFDF Subscription On Demand Policy. This will help lower the players fees. This first year is a test for UltiWorld usage. The monthly subscription fee would be US\$12,99.

WFDF will embed video player on WFDF.sport (all free games) of the preliminary games at the TWG. This excludes licensing from China.

### **Continental Association Reports**

PAFDF and AOFDF reports were presented with one addition by Morooka. He confirmed an ongoing discussion with Asian Games in 2026 and the possibility to include Flying Disc as a demonstration.

Hermand (EFDF) spoke about the European event held in Poland.

### **Disc Sport Committee Reports**

#### Overall

McLeod is trying to get more registrations for WOC and plans to get more Overall events happen.

#### Guts

Taylor presented the tournament in Philippines with seven teams involved and another one happening in Thailand.

There is a need to reform the committee properly. Woldt added that next year there should be continental championships, and this is something to be discussed in near future.

### **Other Business**

The final Congress briefing book was to be sent by July the 4th if updated reports were received. If there were no changes with already sent reports, Bernardi should be notified.

### **Next meetings/wrap-up**

ExComm: 27/28 AUG; Board: 17/18 SEP

**Closing: 18:10 CET**

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum  
WFDF Secretary