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**Saturday October 1, 2022**

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, POR: 22:00, GER, SRB, FRA: 23:00, UGA: 00:00 (Sunday, October 2nd, 2022), UAE: 01:00 (Sunday, October 2nd, 2022), SGP: 05:00 (Sunday, October 2nd, 2022), JPN, KOR: 06:00 (Sunday, October 2nd, 2022)

**Board members present:**

Robert "Nob" Rauch (chair), Brian Gisel, Thomas Griesbaum, David Raflo, Fumio Morooka, Rob McLeod, Nicole Bulos, Caroline "Caz" Malone, Yoonee Jeong, Steve Taylor, Jamie Nuwer, 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)

**Guests:**

Gaël Ancelin (Athletes' Commission)  
Paul Walczak (Athletes' Commission)  
Christina Lind-Hunter (AOFDF Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee)

**Call to order (time: 23:04 CEST)**

Quorum reached with 12 votes of 10/18 needed.

**Report by the President**

Nob welcomed everybody and thanked all for participating.

**Decisions between meetings**

(none)

**Minutes of the meeting Board of Directors - 19 June 2022**

(already approved by email)

**Minutes of the meeting Executive Committee - 27 August 2022**

(presented for information)

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

### **WFDF Events Team Report**

Woldt reported that all WFDF events in 2022 went well. All venues were great and all local organizing committees had performed well. But there had been some problems with individuals and teams and that required action.

Numbers wise, two events were particularly successful: WMUCC had more teams attending than expected, WUCC had the expected 128 teams but with on average two more players per team than expected. Both events will produce a higher income for WFDF than projected. But still some fees were missing and some invoices had not been received yet.

With all money transfers going through WFDF, Woldt had much better control. However it also increased the work load. Woldt recommended WFDF become more strict about imposing payment deadlines on teams. Also, as fees for Paypal were increasing, WFDF might have to stop offering this as a payment tool option.

Rauch commented that WFDF needed an electronic system which could mechanize the finances around events registration, payments and refunds, and reiterated to the events team that research should be done in the coming weeks.

All events for 2023 had been finalized with hosts except for the World Under-24s. Ireland had tried to submit a bid but could not secure the needed resources. A bid from the Philippines was for an unsuitable date. An experienced LOC from Europe was currently working on securing a venue and submitting a bid.

The AOUGC will take place in Manila (PHI), the All African Ultimate Championships in Kenya, the WBUC in Los Angeles, and the PAUCC in the Dominican Republic. The Virtual Team Disc Golf Championships were planned for February/March 2023. The continental Team Disc Golf Championships 2023 had not yet been bid for.

Bulletins for the 2023 events would be sent out soon.

Rauch mentioned the inaugural Wheelchair Ultimate Championships was to take place in Italy in 2023.

For 2024, EBUC, AOBUC and WMUC had been awarded to LOCs, and other events were still open for bids, especially the WJUC where a host in Europe was being looked for.

Woldt noted that, for the 2023 and 2024 events, no bids were reviewed by the Events Sub-Committee, because all venues and LOCs had a proven record from past events or their bids had been evaluated in 2020 when the events could not take place.

Of the five WFDF commercial partners Universe Point unfortunately had gone out of business as a result of the pandemic. The others had participated at WFDF events in 2022, some quite strong. Bags, Footwear and Gloves would be up for new RFPs by October 2022.

### **Membership application Italy - change of membership**

Bernardi reported that FIFD had applied for a change of the Italian membership. The Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI) will not accept an additional non-olympic sports federation and suggested that FIFD join Federazione Italiana Giochi E Sport Tradizionali (FIGeST) which is already recognized by CONI. FIGeST is a confederation and will allow FIFD to keep its autonomy.

Rauch noted that FIFD strongly supported this move because it would help FIFD to gain more financial and non-financial resources.

A motion was made by Malone to present the change of WFDF membership of Italy from FIFD to FIGeST for approval to Congress, seconded by Bulos. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Membership application Malta - change of membership**

Bernardi reported that the current WFDF member from Malta was Malta Sport For All. However, since the Malta Olympic Committee can only recognize separate federations, the Malta Flying Disc Association had been founded over a process of two years and approved by Malta Sport For All.

A motion was made by Jeong to present the change of WFDF membership of Malta from Malta Sport For All to Malta Flying Disc Association for approval to Congress, seconded by Nuwer. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Membership application Saudi Arabia (SFDC) - new membership**

Bernardi reported that SFDC had not yet submitted certified statutes and therefore their application could not yet be voted on. He expected the documents to be received shortly and proposed that the board could vote on their application electronically once finalized.

SFDC had been very active in the MENA region in the last few years and has a proven record of women participation in the sport both in Mixed teams as well as in Women teams. SFDC had already been recognized by the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee and Bernardi confirmed that SFDC had a safeguarding policy in place.

### **Other new memberships developments**

Bernardi mentioned that Bulos was working on some members in South America. He had spoken with member of African Union from Zimbabwe and he hoped they would apply. Uzbekistan was another potential candidate and he expected to see more attending the upcoming Sofia Coaching Clinic such as Tunisia.

### **Finance: Treasurer's YTD 2022 report**

In absence of Bergeron Rauch reported that WFDF finances looked good. Sanctioning fees were around US\$ 120,000 higher than projected. Broadcasting and licensing had created fairly large revenues but most of that would be offset by expenses. He expected higher expenses also in the area of travel and merchandize. Reconciliation on events was ongoing and there might be some net revenue. The current projection looked like WFDF might make up for a fair amount of the capital reserve which WFDF used during the pandemic allowing us to rebuild our financial reserve.

### **WFDF 2022 election - announcement and nomination form**

Bernardi announced that the elections needed to be opened on November 15th, with 50% of the Board elected every year. Candidate statements were needed by October 31st. There will be a call for candidates published within next week. Appointees were to be made for at-large board positions. Presidents of continental federations would be elected by the respective federations. He asked all Board members who are up for reelection to decide if they will run again and send in the necessary documents.

Nomination forms were to be sent to Bernardi as election administrator, with a copy to Jankovic.

A motion was made by Morooka to approve the format of the nomination form, seconded by Jeong. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Bernardi reported that during The World Games there had been no positive results and he had not heard about positive results from testing during WUCC. Out-of-competition testing for 2022 still needed to be done. At the next Board meeting WFDF needed to approve to sign another agreement with WADA. A WADA code compliance questionnaire was coming up in May 2023.

### **IOC, GAISF, ARISF, IMGA, IWGA, TAFISA, Update**

Bernardi reported that the planned dissolution of GAISF would perhaps not happen after all, as there had not been any update. It had been discussed that GAISF could merge with SportAccord during an extra-ordinary meeting, but the legal status of this merger was still unclear.

It was possible that the International Master Games Association (IMGA) could undergo a complete restructuring.

### **WFDF Commissions - proposals to the Board for appointments**

Rauch presented the following appointments and changes to several WFDF commissions:

Athletes' Commission (pending consultation with AC):

Chair (selected by the elected Commission members): Caroline Tisson (GER)

Board appointed positions (proposal - pending consultation with AC):

1 Cat Phillips (AUS) – addition for continental balance - Oceania

2 Emily Wong (SGP) – addition for continental balance – Asia

3 Eleanor Shadwell (ZIM) – addition for continental balance – Africa

4 Salma Serag El Din (EGY) – addition for continental balance – Africa

5 tbc (USA) – addition tbc

Athletes' Entourage Commission:

Addition of Davide Morri (ITA)

Addition of Ludovic Romano (FRA)

Medical & Anti-Doping Committee:  
Addition of Dr Annie Proust (FRA)

University, School Sport and Youth and Sport Commission  
Addition of Davide Morri (ITA)

Parasports Commission:  
Addition of Irene Scazzieri (ITA)

A motion was made by Malone to approve all recommended changes, seconded by Morooka. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Application CGF/Victoria 2026 - inclusion in Commonwealth Games**

Bernardi reported that Ultimate Victoria (Australia) had asked WFDF to apply to enter the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Victoria. Apparently, four additional sports could be added although 16 sports had applied so far. We recognized that this might be a long-shot but that it would be a good exercise in getting to know the Australian Olympic authorities a bit better.

### **Application SEA Games/Thailand 2025 - inclusion at South East Asian Games**

Bernardi reported that the Thailand federation has asked WFDF to apply to become accepted by the SEA Games, a subgroup of the Asian games. But to apply a SEA Flying Disc Federation needed to be founded.

Morooka confirmed that the SEA Games is a big event and it would help to develop Flying Disc in South East Asia and other Asian countries. The SEA Flying Disc federation should be located under AOFDF.

Rauch asked Morooka and Bernardi to work together over the next weeks to make an application to SEA Games possible.

### **EUSA Games 2024 and WFDF University event 2023**

Bernardi reported about the EUSA Games 2024 in Debrecen. In the year before, WFDF would hold a University event in 2023 in Debrecen. Teams would be nominated by national university sports federations and be from one single university per country. There are no national university teams, often it is the champion of the national university championships. The dates might clash with WFDF events, but

since only one team from one university could participate, only very few athletes could be affected.

### **TAFISA European Sport for all Games, Perugia (ITA), 23-29 September 2022**

Ten Freestyle athletes coordinated by the FPA Vice President had participated at this event with 600 athletes from different sports. Bernardi was awaiting reports about the outcome.

### **WFDF 2022 census and membership dues invoices - update**

About 95% of the dues for 2022 had been collected. The Administration team was constantly working on getting the outstanding dues.

Bernardi reported that in the last 2 weeks many voices in the world of sports had stated that under certain conditions Russian and Belarus athletes might be able to return to sports in 2022. If this would happen then Russia would have to pay dues for 2022.

Members who had not paid dues are not in good standing and would not be able to participate in WFDF events or have a vote.

### **WFDF 2022 Development Programme - WFDF Sofia Coaching clinic**

14 countries had signed up for this event, perhaps 2-4 were from countries who were not WFDF members. Well-known coaches Sion "Brummie" Scone and Alex Bendict would run the clinic and Bernardi would attend to speak about WFDF.

### **WFDF Development Programme 2022**

It had been planned to spend part of the development money on the Central American and Caribbean games in November 2022 but this event would not happen. In next ExComm meeting WFDF will propose how to spend these resources.

## **Reports and Updates**

### **Athletes' Commission Report**

AC member Paul Walczak explained that six members had been elected, and the AC was working on a proposal for the five appointed members. The list would be ready for the next Board Meeting. The AC had been working on defining its goals and strategies. Having two members of the AC attend this Board meeting would bring the entire commission up to speed and help to work effectively.

### **SOTG Commission report**

Amoroso presented a written report with a detailed overview of the working groups. The Spirit Director reports from the various WFDF events in 2022 were included with various recommendations. iSOTG day was in the planning stage. In the past small activities had happened to get communities engaged. The commission was looking for prizes and give aways from sponsors.

Rauch added that the Ukraine participation at WTDGC in Croatia gave WFDF the opportunity to show what sport can do for Ukraine. WFDF wanted to work with SOTG commission on how best to provide help.

Translation of SOTG to new languages was in the works.

McLeod mentioned a perceived need to renew SOTG activities in Canada. It was suggested that he contact the SOTG chairperson Amoroso to see if the SOTG Committee could help in this regard.

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

Malone briefly mentioned that it had been suggested that WFDF could improve gender equity within commentary at WFDF events.

Christina Lind-Hunter, AOFDF Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair under the Womens' Commission, then reported about EDI activities within the region of AOFDF. She announced an increase in participation and information.

The topic then moved to the situation of former women athletes in one of WFDF's member countries who were now under persecution. The support that had been received and passed on to these women was described and plans for further assistance outlined.

### **Media and Broadcast Plans for 2023**



Rockwood reported that WFDF had done very well in 2022 in its broadcasting efforts. He noted that WFDF had arranged the broadcasting of the first three days of TWG at its own expense within short notice. It was also the first time WFDF introduced a paying model for viewing streams of Ultimate games at WUCC. In the past broadcasting was in part paid for by players' fees. At this first attempt the income covered the costs but he was optimistic that in the future it could become a source of revenue.

The stats showed a surprisingly low participation from Europe. Overall 65% of the viewers were male and 75% used a mobile device (phone or tablet).

Rockwood asked the Athletes Commission to find out what the players and their families thought about setting up a paywall. He added that the Olympic Channel still provide free streams and all finals at WUCC had also been free to view.

Besides the income WFDF received from the paywall it had also licensed a feed to a Chinese producer. Bernardi expressed interest in detailed statistics of the Chinese viewership with TWG 2025 in Chengdu in mind.

## **Continental Association Reports**

### **PAFDF:**

Bulos reported about the attempt to enter Ultimate into the first Central American and Caribbean Beach Games in Santa Marta in Colombia, but only three countries had signed up for participation. Cuba continued to work on the documents for WFDF membership application.

Bernardi noted that even if the attempt to enter the Caribbean Beach Games did not work out, all the work invested would pay off eventually.

### **EFDF:**

EFDF is a partner of the TAFISA project INTERACT+ (International and European Sport Organizations Activating Citizens) through the help of the German federation. EFDF and BULA are working on a MoU for EBUCC for the next two years. EFDF was working on setting up an Athletes' Commission. Flying Disc will be part of several Multisport events (TAFISA EUROPE Sport for All Games 2022, IMGA European Masters Games 2023, EUSA European Universities Games 2024).

### **AOFDF:**

Morooka mentioned AOFDF's support of Afghan women athletes as well as the Thailand Ultimate Invitation Match 2022 and the SEA Games. Jeong added that in South Korea the WFDF member will change its name from KUPA to KFDF. There

had been a dispute with another group in South Korea which used the name KFDF but this had been settled and WFDF would soon be informed officially.

## **Disc Sport Committee Reports**

### Disc Golf

Mead's written report included a current list of the committee members, a report of the WFDF 2022 World Team Disc Golf Championship (WTDGC) in Croatia and of the demonstration at TWG. He mentioned the upcoming European Masters Games with Disc Golf as a medal sport. The SOTG Committee and the Disc Golf Committee introduced a pilot scheme to WTDGC. This went down well with teams and will be included in all future WTDGC and Continental Team Championships

### Beach Ultimate

Raflo noted that there were quite a few activities within Beach Ultimate, including the European Beach Ultimate championships and the upcoming 2023 WBUC.

Rauch proposed that at WBUC the Mixed division might be played according to the new 4x4 format as a first real test event. Gisel disagreed with the proposal. He felt it would devalue the Worlds experience of the athletes. He also did not feel it was needed as other Beach Ultimate tournaments already successfully used a 4x4 format and had shown that it works. Rauch felt that using the format at Worlds would show that the format was legitimate and also provide a real test of how it worked and showcased the sport.

Bernardi emphasized that the 4x4 format was not only needed to apply for Olympic games but also for other Multisport events. He had received clear guidance that the quota it is currently given for World Games would work for other multi-sports games.

In the ensuing discussion it became clear that more exchange of viewpoints and ideas would be necessary. Rauch suggested that WFDF should take the time for such discussions and tabled the proposal..

### Overall

McLeod stated that the Overall Committee had been trying to achieve too many goals and will try to get back on track in 2023 with another edition of WOC. He confirmed that the Overall Committee wanted to work together with WFDF and the Event Team for future events.

### Freestyle

(no update)

#### Guts

Taylor noted that the Asia Oceanic Ultimate and Guts Club Championships sparked great interest in the Guts community. He aimed at having a Women's division at this event and would work towards that goal.

#### **Other Business**

Bernardi reminded the potential candidates for re-election to collect their endorsement letters in time from the NFs or their communities as elections cannot be postponed.

#### **Next meetings:**

ExComm: 22/23 OCT; Board: 19/20 NOV

**Closing: 01:57 CEST**

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum  
WFDF Secretary