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**Minutes of the WFDF Executive Committee meeting Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**  
9.00am PDT / 11.00am CDT / noon NY 6.00pm CEST / 7.00pm Turkey / 8.00pm  
GST

**Attending:**

Robert "Nob" Rauch (chair), Kate Bergeron, Brian Gisel, Thomas Griesbaum, Volker Bernardi, Karina Woldt, Dillon Richardson, Samantha Kehl, Patrick Fourcampre-Maye, Yenny Pardo, Oleksandra Boliak

**Call to order**

18:02 CEST

**Overview by the President**

President Rauch opened the meeting and briefly introduced the agenda.

**Decisions between meetings**

(none)

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

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 28 APR, 2024**

The Board of Directors meeting minutes of April 28, 2024 were presented to Executive Committee for review.

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes APR 6, 2024**

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the Executive Committee meeting Minutes of April 6, 2024, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Event Management Report**

Woldt explained that events in Asia, Oceanic, Australia in 2024 will be held according to the budget, but no surplus is expected.

She highlighted concerns about the budget for the 4v4 International Beach Ultimate Tournament in Hainan (CHN) which strongly relied on obtaining enough sponsorship money to pay for 8 international teams to attend this 16 team event. According to the

budget in Chinese, a lot of money was already being spent. Rauch suggested to communicate budget concerns to the Chinese organizers.

Woldt noted that Chinese teams were participating in WFDF events in 2024 had submitted all payments.

The WBUC 2025 organizer in Portugal required a date change, leading to adjustments for the AOUGC, PAUC, and WFDF World Wheelchair Ultimate Championships events. Thus, an announcement with dates will be delayed slightly. Woldt noted that she had informed the LOC of WU24, who had run former WFDF events, about the new cash flow through WFDF and LOC needed to adjust their financial planning.

Woldt had received the bid for WFDF World Wheelchair Ultimate Championships just recently and she would pass it on to Bernardi. He added that there were ongoing classification and technical rule discussions with IPC and recommended a site visit.

It was agreed with Kehl to prepare a press release for 2025 events once letters of intent or contracts are signed by the respective LOCs.

The Events Subcommittee had finished its review of the bids for the 2026 WJUC but was still working on bids for the other 2026 events.

Fourcampre-Maye reported on the status with the registration software producer RFIDentikit, mentioning changes in their management and team which caused a lack of communication. Woldt said she reminded them of the down payment made by WFDF for testing and highlighted the need for QuickBooks online integration, which remains unproven. Rauch emphasized the importance of getting a clear explanation from the company regarding their ability to deliver promised work, considering WFDF's upfront payment.

Woldt mentioned recent WFDF web server issues and concerns about the WUC event server. Fourcampre-Maye clarified that the event servers are separate and suggested he would check with Tobiasiewicz about the storage capacity needs.

A detailed summary of last year's events for sponsors, created by Pardo, was presented, which highlighted the upcoming call for bids for new sponsors and potential competition among disc suppliers. Rauch discussed the need to communicate with disc suppliers about financial contributions and potential benefits, encouraging creative ideas such as support and sport development in Africa and South America.

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Woldt mentioned the discussions with Mead regarding the quality and availability of approved basket types

Gisel inquired about new RFPs for drinks or energy bars. Woldt confirmed plans to include eyewear and drinks categories, mentioning potential contacts from previous events and the strategy for an open RFP. Rauch proposed researching contacts at major drink companies and initiating calls to explore sponsorship interest with support of Pardo, Kehl and Richardson. Richardson shared insights on potential sponsors like China water suppliers and suggested leveraging connections for sponsorship opportunities. Bergeron highlighted the possibility of sponsors catering to both global and regional approaches, different for Asia, North America, Europe.

### **Finance: YTD 2024 report**

Bergeron reported on the financial and audit status and highlighted that dues payments are coming in thanks to Richardson's efforts. The audit is nearly complete, and preparations for the 2025 budget have begun. Due to new budget categories under the newly adopted chart of accounts, a mapping/reconciliation of the 2024 budget continues. Bergeron mentioned plans to review raw data from the census post-COVID with Richardson for future projections.

Rauch suggested starting the budget with a net-zero approach for video production, aiming to keep it within budget constraints. Gisel agreed with the net-zero approach. Bergeron mentioned that revenue sharing from events might not be significant this year and indicated she would provide more details in the next board meeting.

Rauch reminded members of the deadline for Annual Congress materials, which will take place on August 30-31 in Australia, and noted the importance of having the audit ready for the briefing book.

### **UNAOC/WFDF - Refugee Day collaboration proposal**

Bernardi explained the proposal to participate in the UNAOC's Refugee Day on June 20, 2024. The proposal has three parts:

1. Granting a development grant to an applicant from Egypt, including the financial support.
2. Publicly calling for nominations of refugee ambassadors in connection with the Interact project.

3. Allocating 8 places at our next development training and coaching clinic this autumn which are paid by WFDF to form a refugee team. The cost for the coaching clinic will be defined later.

Richardson introduced the applicant from Egypt, who submitted the grant proposal and is part of the IOC Young Ambassador program, confirming her credibility and potential to focus on flying disc. Bernardi confirmed outreach to the flying disc community and coordination with the national federation in Egypt. He also emphasized the importance to start in addressing the refugee crisis and highlighted the opportunity to engage a large potential group for the sport.

Rauch raised concerns about political sensitivity of the proposal. Bernardi emphasized the broader context of the UNAOC campaign. It was suggested to focus on public participation on calling for refugee ambassador nominations and supporting the coaching clinic.

Kehl proposed to draft a communication plan for the UNAOC participation, based on the discussion. Rauch agreed to review the proposal and address further details via emails communication.

### **Proposal Learning Management System**

Richardson presented the proposal of the Learning Management System which meets the objectives of the strategic plan. The proposed platform is Moodle. The aim was to centralize educational content and manage it internally to reduce costs. Richardson explained that the system, already used by large organizations and universities, would have a cost of US\$1,400 upfront and US\$ 800 annually that would cover server space and help-desk support.

Rauch highlighted Moodle's efficiency, asking how the content would be managed and accessed. Richardson assured that the Learning Management System would be populated with educational tools, promoting growth in sports like disc golf and freestyle by making learning accessible and free. It requires collaboration with the WFDF committees and commissions. Rauch inquired about using of system for physical education teachers, student certifications, possibility to develop a curriculum for Wheelchair Ultimate and integrating rules certification. Richardson described possible solutions for curriculum development and certification processes.

Discussing potential conflicts with content providers, Richardson suggested long-term collaboration and monetization options through premium content models.

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A motion was made by Rauch to approve the Learning Management System Proposal, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Proposal Member Hub**

The Member Hub is an idea of extending the Learning Management System for national federation administrators to disseminate and collect best practices, repurposing it to issue certificates and manage tasks. Richardson highlighted the benefits, such as automatic reminders about the deadlines and workload reduction.

Rauch raised a concern about onboarding members to a new platform, for which he would anticipate there would be some adoption reluctance. Richardson responded by sharing his experience from a previous role, where a similar system was successfully implemented. Member adoption could be improved by consistent communication and through webinars. It will not require an additional cost. Rauch suggested to repeat this conversation at the next board meeting.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the Member Hub Proposal, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Proposal “Kit Us Out” MoU/Supplier/Partner**

Richardson explained that the "Kid Us Out," charity was founded by a volunteer from the London 2012 Olympics who wanted to stay engaged in sports. The charity has been supporting various international federations (IFs) by obtaining new training uniforms from brands like Nike and Under Armour and donating them to countries like Uganda and the Central African Republic to meet basic needs and support high-performance teams. The charity also provided financial support directly to recommended suppliers to outfit select teams and this proposal of MoU with WFDF for supporting the sport and its members perfectly aligned with the charity's mission.

Rauch responded positively, acknowledging that the charity's support was beneficial and not competition for other sponsors.

A motion was made by Rauch to approve the “Kit Us Out” MoU proposal, seconded by Gisel. The motion was approved unanimously.

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## **Proposal Certificate of Good Standing**

This certificate would be issued to member federations upon completing specific tasks, such as submitting a census or paying membership dues. It would be more useful to automate the process through Moodle. This automation would save time and provide member federations with official documentation needed for reporting to their National Olympic Committees (NOCs) or governments.

Rauch agreed, appreciating idea and confirmed that this proposal did not require a formal vote.

## **WFDF 2024 Development Programme - IOC Funding proposal**

Bernardi began the discussion with news about the annual US\$ 32,000 IOC funding application. The IOC mandates that one-third of the funding (US\$ 10,666) be allocated to anti-doping activities. The remaining funds would support Ultimate development, additional grants and special projects.

## **Report on Meetings in Italy and San Marino - EOC/CONI/CIJM/CONS/GAWSF etc.**

Bernardi reported on recent meetings held in Italy and San Marino with influential representatives of CONI (Italian National Olympic Committee), the International Mediterranean Games Committee (CIJM) and the European Olympic Committees (EOC). The possibility of flying disc as a potential demonstration sport event at the Mediterranean Games 2026 in Taranto, Italy and inclusion to the Mediterranean Beach Games 2027 in Portugal were discussed. The main goal is to include flying disc in the program of the Mediterranean Games 2030 in Pristina, Kosovo as full medal sport event.

Bernardi also highlighted an upcoming invitation to the EOC General Assembly in Bucharest, Romania, marking his first observer status at this assembly

In San Marino, discussions focused on establishing a member federation, similar to smaller states like Monaco and Luxembourg. Discussions highlighted the presence and participation of San Marinense flying disc sport players in Rimini that demonstrate an active interest and engagement in the sport among the local population. CONS proposed that Flying Disc be integrated into an existing recognized federation in San Marino that already has recognition from the NOC.

Bernardi also mentioned meetings with the International Workers Sports Federation (CSIT), a federation for laborers and workers' sports, and with the World Federation for Company Sport (WFCS).

Bernardi reported about the meeting with the Chairman of the General Association of World Sports Federations (GAWSF) and the background of the organization which could help WFDF to achieve flying disc recognition by OCA and in Macau's NOC.

### **Communication report**

Kehl provided an overview of communications and social media activities, mentioning an upcoming joint statement with PDGA supporting transgender athletes, the announcement of the 2025 event calendar and Mead's upcoming podcast interview about disc golf. Kehl would pass on to Mead an official statement regarding disc golf and its potential Olympic inclusion to avoid any misunderstandings.

Kehl asked about the process of getting photo and video content from the upcoming AOBUC.

### **WFDF Annual Census and Dues Invoices report**

Bernardi highlighted the importance of ensuring all teams participating in WFDF events have paid their dues. He noted the receipt of 70% of total dues to-date. Special cases in countries were discussed, with plans to address them in the upcoming board meeting. Rauch suggested downgrading memberships to US\$ 25 for non-active participants. Bernardi proposed covering the US\$ 25 dues for certain countries through the development program, easing the burden on them due to the transfer expenses. Rauch and Bernardi emphasized the importance of maintaining good standing and the need for guidelines to manage such cases effectively. Rauch advocated for viewing support for poorer countries as part of the development program rather than a change in the dues model.

### **Broadcast Contract with UltiWorld**

The contract was presented for review. Rauch asked members to send comments to Gisel and Rockwood regarding missing or unclear aspects of the contract. Concerns were raised about limitations on content usage rights and instant access to videos for editing during events.

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Gisel provided feedback from Rockwood. Rauch emphasized the importance of clarity and open communication to avoid surprises and provide Kehl an instant access to all game footage to create own clips and highlights. Gisel expressed confidence that there will be no problems with such conditions.

Fourcample-Maye inquired about plans for a broadcast manual and timeline deliverables for event services. Gisel confirmed the plan for a manual and discussed the concept of "zero in, zero out" regarding control over day-to-day operations and mentioned ongoing discussions about a contract with plans to finalize it by the end of the week. Rauch requested to send the Broadcast Contract for review.

### **Disc Golf Partnership RFP**

Rauch discussed the disc golf RFP, noting that proposals were expected by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. Some responses have been received, while others have declined participation. Rauch suggested waiting to see what additional responses come in before discussing further.

Bernardi then clarified the limitations regarding sponsor visibility at the World Games 2025 in Chengdu, emphasizing the strict vendor policy. Rauch proposed the idea of facilitating direct sponsorship of the disc golf venue by a Chinese manufacturer through the IWGA to allow for sponsorship recognition. Bernardi agreed with this idea.

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

ExComm: 13/14 JUL; Board: 22/23 JUN

**Closing: 20:16 CEST**

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum  
WFDF Secretary