Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
September 6th, 2026

Sunday, September 6th, 2026
07:00 PDT / 10:00 EDT / 15:00 BST / 16:00 CEST / 17:00 EAT

Attending:

Robert "Nob" Rauch (President), Brian Gisel (Vice President/Chair, Ultimate Committee), Kate Bergeron (Treasurer), Catherine Nakasi (Secretary), Jonathan Rigby (Secretary General, non-voting), Karina Woldt (Managing Director Events and Operations, non-voting), Dillon Richardson (Director of Membership Services and Sport Development), Pablo Naya (Communications and Social Media Manager), Patrick Alexander (Commercial Marketing Manager), Oleksandra Boliak (Administrator and Office Manager)

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 16:10 CEST by President Rauch.

Overview by the President

Rauch welcomed participants and outlined the agenda. Rauch noted that the Global Disc Golf Forum held the previous day had gone well.

Minutes - Board of Directors Meeting - 18 July 2026

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on 18 July 2026 were presented to the Executive Committee for information in the Briefing Book.

Decisions requiring votes of or specific input from the ExComm

Approval of 2026 WFDF Annual Congress Minutes

The Executive Committee reviewed the minutes of the 2026 WFDF Annual Congress. No comments or amendments were raised.

A motion was made by Gisel to approve the 2026 WFDF Annual Congress Minutes for circulation to Congress members for voting, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

Action items from previous meetings

The Executive Committee briefly reviewed the Action items from Minutes. No additional comments or items were raised.

Finance: YTD 2026 report

Bergeron provided an update on the July year-to-date financial results. She reported that income was slightly ahead of budget and that overall spending was tracking well. Event-related equipment represented the largest deviation from budget.

Overall, Bergeron reported that WFDF was tracking well against its annual plan. Gray and Woldt were continuing to process outstanding post-event expense reports. No significant additional expenditures were expected.

Woldt reported that it was still too early to provide final event profitability figures. The WMUCC 2026 and WUCC 2026 had generated particularly strong financial results, while the WJUC 2026 event was not expected to generate much beyond its sanctioning fee.

Woldt also reported that the Events Team was making good progress with closing out the events. Outstanding claim forms and reports were still being collected, and some invoices remained to be finalized.

Woldt noted that there had been an increase in refunds to teams. She explained that this was primarily because teams were using the injury replacement process and submitting the required medical certificates.

WFDF Events Team Report

Woldt noted that the next meeting would be the face-to-face Mini meeting, planned for 6–8 November in Frankfurt, at a new location closer to the airport. The Committee discussed inviting Hill to participate, given his experience as a LOC member, National Federation lead, and role in European Ultimate. Gisel supported the idea. Woldt agreed to include him in the planning and confirm the final numbers. The possibility of inviting Sheather was also discussed. Woldt would check his availability, noting that this could require an additional trip. Rigby suggested that the F2F Mini meeting should focus on fewer topics and allow for deeper discussion rather than being primarily a status meeting. He identified event structure and longer-term planning and culture and ways of working as two substantive topics. Rauch asked Rigby to prepare a preliminary agenda for further discussion. Bergeron also noted that future Masters events should consider separating the lower-age-bracket Masters participants from the older Masters divisions and using a location with better field conditions than this year.

Woldt reported that planning for the 2027 events was progressing. The Disc Golf calendar was still being finalized, with four regional or continental events being considered. Planning was also underway

for the Guts event in the Asia-Oceania region, with the final format still to be determined. The WU24 2027 in Japan remained planned, as well as the Annual Congress.

Woldt noted that the Indoor event was also planned for 2027. Woldt also confirmed that WWUC would take place in Lithuania. The Committee agreed that the broader calendar, including future event cycles and the frequency of Indoor and Wheelchair events, should be considered in greater depth at the face-to-face Mini meeting.

Woldt reported that planning for 2028 was progressing well. Canada had confirmed its event. The Masters event in the Dominican Republic had an agreed date and venue confirmation. In France, city and National Federation approval had been obtained. The remaining work was to identify the LOC and confirm the required responsibilities. Woldt also noted the importance of confirming the number of fields early enough and confirmed the planned visit to France after the current event.

Woldt mentioned that the call for 2029 hosts had not yet been issued but should be launched soon. She emphasized the importance of planning the calendar at least two years ahead.

Woldt emphasized the importance of closing out the 2026 events and financials as soon as possible. She noted the workload involved in closing the season and thanked Simenc for the additional support provided to the Events Team. She also reported that Portwine was doing well in his current position, with his work expected to increase after the current season.

Post-Event Participant Survey

Richardson presented the proposed Post-Event Feedback Survey, developed following the World Ultimate Club Championships, for athletes and athlete support personnel. The draft was awaiting further input on discipline-specific questions and final sign-off.

Rigby suggested issuing the survey as soon as possible, particularly following WUCC, and also to WMUCC and WJUC participants to cover the three major Ultimate events.

The Executive Committee agreed that general questions could be consistent across events, while technical and discipline-specific questions should be tailored to Ultimate and Disc Golf. Rauch suggested preparing separate versions for the two disciplines, with most questions shared, and recommended asking for respondents' actual age rather than age ranges.

Membership and Development Report

Richardson reported that Athletes' Commission elections were ongoing, as well as elections for Ultimate Subcommittees.

He reported that WFDF had conducted an activation with the United Nations at WUCC, which had received positive visibility through the UN's channels. Richardson noted that a video was being prepared for WFDF's own channels.

Richardson also provided an update on the WFDF Academy and ongoing work on news releases. He suggested that the Executive Committee discuss opportunities to improve federation management and explore integration between the Academy and other systems, including safeguarding training, rules accreditation, and coaching, to automate verification and reduce manual processes.

Rauch noted that the Academy's KPIs were performing well and appeared to be exceeding expectations. Rigby added that the Academy had gained a more prominent position on the WFDF website and that course completion rates were improving alongside overall traffic. Richardson suggested increasing social media visibility of Academy activities and their impact once the event season had closed.

Richardson confirmed the receipt of a USD 7,000 grant from TAFISA for Girls Positive and Safe Coaching Pathway that had been extended. He also noted the opportunity to increase visibility of activities supported by the grant.

Rigby provided a broader update on development priorities, including clarifying Tomasini's role and its intersection with Richardson's responsibilities. He noted that he would begin biweekly meetings with Tomasini. Rigby also highlighted the need for a clearer multi-sport events strategy, including identifying priority events where WFDF should focus its efforts. He further noted the need to prioritize National Federations that were closest to achieving NOC recognition, rather than attempting to support all federations simultaneously. He highlighted the connection between participation in multi-sport events and NOC recognition.

Commercial and Marketing Report

Alexander reported on ongoing commercial and sponsorship activity, including event-related opportunities, adjacent brands, larger non-endemic brands, and sponsorship and marketing agencies. He noted that WMUCC and WUCC had provided useful testing opportunities and that a more systematic approach to brand outreach was now being implemented. Four active brand discussions were highlighted, with further meetings or information pending. Outreach to sponsorship and marketing agencies had also begun, and a LinkedIn content plan was being developed.

The Committee discussed how WFDF's network could assist with introductions to potential sponsors, particularly in international markets. Alexander clarified that he was primarily seeking introductions

and contacts rather than expecting LOCs to undertake sponsorship sales. Rigby suggested identifying a small number of well-connected individuals in key regions to help open doors to larger brands.

Woldt noted that most LOCs did not have dedicated marketing or commercial teams and that any commercial activity for 2027 would need to be established early. The Committee also discussed encouraging LOCs to pursue smaller local sponsorship opportunities, with Rauch suggesting that guidance or templates could be provided.

Alexander explained that current discussions with potential partners focused on understanding their objectives and developing bespoke partnership propositions rather than standard sponsorship packages.

Woldt also raised the workload involved in managing event websites and social media accounts. Rigby noted that there was limited internal capacity and that, for 2027, greater responsibility might need to remain with LOCs while WFDF maintained agreed marketing and branding requirements. The matter was left for further discussion offline.

Communication and Social Media Report

Naya reported strong results for July and August, with almost 11 million views across WFDF channels, including approximately 6.2 million views during the WUCC. He also noted strong event-specific results and additional reach through LOC social media accounts.

Rigby noted that the results reinforce a clear hierarchy in engagement across events, with National team World events generally generating higher engagement than Clubs, Juniors and Masters. He also highlighted the opportunity to build Disc Golf reach and proposed using a small optional marketing budget to boost content during the WTDGC. The Executive Committee was comfortable with an optional spend without requiring formal approval.

Naya confirmed that PDGA had been approached about sharing WFDF content and directing its audience to the WTDGC YouTube coverage. He also explained that final Disc Golf seedings and match-ups are only confirmed shortly before the event due to roster and rating changes, so the relevant posts and announcements will be published shortly before the event.

Broadcasting Report

Rauch presented the Broadcasting Report submitted by Rockwood. He noted that Ultiworld revenue is expected to increase by approximately 15%, from around USD 22,000 to approximately USD 25,000. The Executive Committee discussed the longer-term broadcast strategy, particularly ahead of the 2028 renewal.

Rauch suggested exploring opportunities for international distribution outside the US and Canada to increase visibility, while Rigby noted that the future model should balance revenue with reach. Gisel confirmed that there has already been flexibility in discussions with Ultiworld around paywall arrangements and international distribution. The topic will be considered further as part of the 2028 broadcast renewal.

WFDF Brand Guidelines Implementation

Boliak provided an update on the implementation of the new Brand Guidelines. The guidelines have been shared with staff for feedback and are being updated accordingly, with the aim of making the brand easier and more consistent to use across WFDF. The guidelines cover logos, colors, fonts, imagery, templates and other brand assets, with links to the relevant materials in the Brand library.
Boliak requested approval to share the guidelines with the Board and Committee Chairs. Rauch highlighted the need for clear instructions on how to access and navigate the Google file system. Rigby confirmed that improving the file structure and providing guidance is a priority. He also confirmed approval for three additional months of web developer's support from the marketing budget, focusing on larger website improvements alongside ongoing fixes. Woldt highlighted the need to update WFDF information across external platforms where the old logo and former contact details are still listed.

Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions

Richardson presented an updated Policy on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, developed following discussions with the IOC. The policy consolidates and updates the existing policies on sports betting integrity and illegal betting rules, aligning them with current IOC best practices. Rauch requested that the scope section explicitly note that the policy replaces and consolidates the previous policies.

A motion was made by Bergeron to approve the Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, seconded by Nakasi. The motion was approved unanimously.

Any Other Business

Rauch reported that he had consolidated PDGA demographic information with WFDF census data to support prioritization of National Federations and identify development opportunities.

Rigby provided an update on the UBS Bank due diligence process. Most information is in place, with the remaining item concerning historical inflows and outflows. It was agreed that figures for the last three years should be sufficient, with the remaining information to follow.

Rauch reported that there had been no new information from Brisbane, but current indications suggest a significantly reduced program compared with LA.

The Executive Committee discussed event contract updates following the Limerick meeting. Woldt confirmed that new contracts already include the agreed changes.

Closing Remarks and Acknowledgments

Rauch thanked everyone for participation and confirmed dates for the next Board and Executive Committee meetings.

Next meetings

BoD: 17/18 OCT; ExComm: 14/15 NOV

Closing: 17:39 CEST

Submitted by Catherine Nakasi
WFDF Secretary