

**World Flying Disc Federation
Membership Congress**

**November 11, 2006
8.30 a.m. – 1.23 p.m.**

**University of Western Australia
Watersports Complex
Perth, Australia**

Draft version 1.2, July 7, 2007

Present	WFDF Position	Representing	Vote Eligible
Juha Jalovaara	President	Finland	Y
Brian Gisel	Team Sports Chair	CUPA Canada	Y
Fumio Morooka	Board Member	JFDA Japan	Y
Jonathan Potts	Administration	AFDA Australia	N
Thomas Griesbaum	Board Member		N
Michael Hu		CTFDA Chinese Taipei	Y
Barry O'Kane		UKUA United Kingdom	Y
Jeroen Pouwels		NFB Netherlands	N (*)
Leon Smith		AFDA Australia	Y
Mel Gangemi		AFDA Australia	N
arrived 8.53 a.m.:			
Rue Veitl	Board Member	DFV Germany	Y
arrived 9.05 a.m.:			
Sarah Gage		South Korea	N (*)
Stephanie Decker		Shanghai Ultimate	N
Candice Lee		Beijing	N
Mauricio Moore		Colombia	N

(*) = dues had not arrived at WFDF in time, therefore no voting rights

Minutes Taken By:

Thomas Griesbaum, Board Member. Attendee review coordinated by Anne-Marie Carey, Executive Director.

1. Call to Order & Opening Remarks

President Juha Jalovaara opens the Congress at 8.39 a.m. He expressed WFDF's hope to see many new faces from the Oceanic region. Juha also explained what would be covered in the meeting.

2. Attendance & Introduction

2.1 Attendance

At 8:57 there were 7 voting members. There will be more during the conference call.

2.2 Member Updates

Fumio “Moro” Morooka – Vice-President JFDA: The Japan association now has 2800 members

Leon Smith – President AFDA, representing 3100 Australian members

Sarah Gage – South Korea: The number of Ultimate players used to be around 100 with around 35 locals, now it is lower. About 50% of players are non-Koreans. There is no formal association, there have never been elections and Korean politics are a problem.

Philippines: In the absence of a Philippine representative Sarah describes the situation there as very encouraging with a strong group of about 95% local players.

Stephanie Decker, Candice Lee – China Ultimate: Shanghai Ultimate has been hosting tournaments since 1999. About 5 or 6 cities in China have Ultimate teams. Shanghai has few local players and mostly foreigners because fields are expensive.

Mauricio Moore, Colombia: Ultimate is the strongest growing sport in Colombia. Attended Juniors Worlds this year and would like to attend WUGC 2008 and therefore need to form an association. There are perhaps 300 players that might be interested in being WFDF members. There are 8 open teams, 4 women teams in Medellin and 21 open and 6 womens teams in Bogota. Ultimate used to help poor kids stay away from violence.

3. Approval of 2005 Congress Minutes

No additions or changes asked for.

Motion: That the 2005 Congress minutes be accepted.

All motions moved to be voted on during conference call

4. President's Report

Notes: Juha explained the goals for the workshop on Tuesday where the Board will explain what it has been dealing with in the past re: IWGA, GAISF, Anti-Doping, etc. and therefore won't be discussed today.

4.1 Staffing/Workload

There have been personnel issues, with administrators not able to fulfil their duties and this has resulted in loss of Joey Gray. Joey Gray resigned perhaps out of frustration that WFDF hasn't moved forward at the pace she wanted to see happen and administrative support was low (J. Potts was very busy with new job, AFDA work and Worlds preparation), therefore the Executive Committee had to take over many day to day administrative tasks.

The workload issue is being resolved with the new Executive Director (ED) search. 13 applications were narrowed down to 8, then to 4, and currently there are 3 very good candidates. Selection committee (D. Nesbitt, Todd, Nob, Juha) will select the candidate in the next 2 weeks (Anne-Marie Carey, Vancouver, WG player; Melle Clark, New York, Worlds experience, Mixed; and Kevin Gibbons, San Diego, Freestyle oriented player and head of intramural sports program at Uni San Diego.)

Tasks of ED: (Half time position, 20 hr/week 21,000 \$/year + expenses, Consulting contract, not employment)

- Membership support and dues invoicing
- Annual census
- Communication (members, web site, WFDF contact list)
- Event management (Congress, event bid processing)

Juha: Spends approx. 20h/week for WFDF

Brian Gisel: Has spent several hundred hours this year for WFDF

Brian Gisel: Explained that there is still a lot of work not being done and that a lot of work is going into WFDF events and more of these are coming up (PanAm, Asian Regionals) The money for an ED is well spent. If not spent, work load is too big for current ExCom and Board members to handle on a volunteer basis.

4.2 Finances:

Estimated 31000 US\$ surplus for 2006.

In a significantly better than expected position this year due to holding world clubs and much lower staff costs than budgeted.

Accounting was outsourced to the same person who does UPA books for 500 US\$/year (=125\$/quarter) + out of pocket expenses. WFDF is also using the permanent UPA postal address for WFDF, which is good because WFDF is a US based organization. Sandie Hammerly is the administrative contact for WFDF, and the actual person doing the books unknown. Potential conflicts of interest between UPA and WFDF must be notified to the other party (per contract).

4.3 Publishing Board Minutes

Minutes might contain sensitive issues not meant for general public, therefore they will not be published on the Internet and will be sent only to members, preferably by password protected web access.

4.4 WFDF Bylaws Rewrite

Main issues that need to be covered: types of memberships, responsibilities of members. **Jeroen Pouwels** volunteers to help in rewriting the Bylaws, mainly by reviewing them. So far Juha and Nob have drawn up an initial draft.

4.5 WG 2005/2009

Moro: One of the reasons Disc Golf was not included in the Sports Program of World Games 2009 is that it is not developed in over 40 countries.

J. Potts: Discussion about improvements for WG 2009. Juha showed letter of recommendation to IWGA, including requests for 15 players and 4 days, but was clear that it will be very hard to get this. It seems that political rather than technical issues reign. There seems to be a lack of accountability in IWGA decisions and it is difficult for us to get written answers to our questions.

Anti-Doping: IFADO (a proposal for an organization, which would help smaller IFs implement anti-doping programmes) was briefly explained briefly, as was the amount of work involved. GAISF, however, does not think IFADO is the right solution and that WADA should take over more work for smaller federations. A questionnaire sent out by WADA was replied to by WFDF. WFDF will not be able to comply with all the requirements of the Anti-Doping Code, similar to several other small federations. At the end of 2006 WADA will report to IOC and there must be a decision how to proceed with those federations.

Jeroen P.: In 2004 there was a statement that WFDF should investigate the process to have non-enhancing substances removed from the WADA list.

4.6 Guts Committee

Moro: Committee Chair Takumi Nunokawa did not receive invitation to Congress 2007. 50th IFT anniversary in Michigan planned to be used as WFDF Guts World Championships. Takumi is writing a proposal for Guts rule changes. Guts should be contested in 2008 WUGC with at least 5 nations. Taiwan, Japan, USA, Sweden, (?)

4.7 Individual Chair

Paul Francz elected as chair and there has been some activity.

4.8 Disc Golf

PDGA Eurotour run in Europe (Tampere, August 2006) (Official PDGA event in Europe) with PDGA International Committee meeting (Juha attended). Prize money plays a great role in motivating PDGA players.

PDGA and WFDF are still working on how WFDF can keep its governing claim for all flying disc sports and at the same time keep PDGA doing Disc Golf work for WFDF.

PDGA can benefit from WFDF with regards to World Games/Olympics, using WFDF as a credibility enhancement and to get more members and money.

WFDF is based on national memberships, PDGA based on individual membership. PDGA focused on professional scene, not regional or grass roots groups. WFDF is a natural extension of the scheme of national associations.

Rü: Similar situation with BULA? BULA currently does not strive to become a separate world federation but would rather develop Beach Ultimate.

OOCA (Olympic Oceanic Committee): Beach Games to take place in Bali soon which could raise the status of BULA.

Moro: Thanked Juha for his report and his work and suggested that Congress should decide to send Joey an official thank you letter. This was unanimously agreed upon.

5. Financial Report 2005 and intermediate status report for 2006

J. Pouwel: Commented on the very good financial report this year and thanked Nob for this.

Johan Lindgren has audited all accounts. Christian Schneider did not have time to thoroughly audit, but has made brief comments.

Banking fees are very high, WFDF has a PayPal account, but transferring more than 1000 \$ is too expensive/complicated in comparison to bank transfers.

J.Pouwels. Brought up suggestions for future reports: Notes or the use of highlighting within the report should identify those expenses which turned out to be much higher (or lower) than estimated with an accompanying reason why.

J.Potts.: Mentioned that the term "contractors" is not a consultant. But Congress agreed that a contractor does not automatically mean WFDF has employed him/her.

Leon Smith: Asks where the WUGC 2004 Turku Sanctioning fee is included. This is pointed out to him.

11:26h

Preparation of conference call
Auditor needed: Johan Lindgren agreed to do again
2nd Candidate: Jeroen Pouwels

Break
People leave:
Brian Gisel, J. Potts, Mel, Candiu, Stephanie

Ch. Schneider in Conference call

Membership Application: Israel

Membership application by Israel needed to be amended (missing information). Has not been returned to WFDF until now, therefore there is no application to handle now. Juha explained why Israel membership application was returned (minimum member numbers not reached, 7 instead of 50 and their financial situation is totally unclear.

Waiting for Sandy Ham. and Dave Nesbitt.

Juha walked Ch. Schneider through past topics. Ch. Schneider comments on minutes 2005 saying that the current status of the Bylaws should have been sent to members. The action plan in minutes did not happen, but he did not request to change the minutes.

Juha: Repeated what was mentioned during the President's Report regarding the bylaws. A draft is expected to be circulated at end of year 2006. There may be different versions of the bylaws to review.

Ch. Schneider: Asked about the timeframe for feedback, requesting at least two months.

Ch. Schneider had concerns about access to the Ultimate Committee documents: Juha will mail them to him.

Discussion about WFDF in Olympic Movement. Ch.: Workshop about this is very important. Please create and pass on minutes of this workshop. Juha explains again that the workshop is to pass on information and generate open discussion perhaps leading to decisions what WFDF should do in the future.

Ch. Schneider mentions similar questions and discussions in Switzerland concerning formal recognition.

12:00

Sandie and Dave haven't joined yet. Juha proceeds with financial projections 2007 - 2009.

6. WFDF Budget 2007

J.Potts: What is "Merchandise & Other sales", what do we sell?
The idea is that WFDF should print discs and clothes and sell them.
Sponsoring: Disc producers could be asked to pay for having WFDF logo on their discs printed.

SportAccord attendance in Beijing will cost a lot of money

Account #6830: Communication & Internet rise due to Ex. Dir. Communication

World Games expenses are quite high: Travel expenses, Technical Delegate meetings expenses (e.g. send in someone from outside of Taiwan to help Michael Hu). Anti-Doping costs

Ch. Schneider: How does a budget with \$26,000 negative operating income make sense? What do others in the room think?

Ch. Schneider notes that the account balance of WFDF will go down from 78'408\$ (end of 2006) to 36'023\$ (end of 2009) while it is planned to spend more money on administration and international organization membership fees without any projects to open up new sources of income. He therefore recommends to reject the budget as this could mean WFDF runs out of money around 2011.

Juha: Agrees that WFDF will be burning money and not sustainable. 2010 missing, that should be a positive year. On the long term if no change is made, we run into difficulties. This plan should also make members aware of the costs which will come if we continue to follow Olympic Movement/World Games.

Now only proposing budget of 2007.

J.Potts: "Good" years must equal out "bad" years. Does not totally agree with Juha that all extra expenses have to do with Olympic Movement. A lot comes from administrative expenses.

Sarah Gage: 2008 is causing a negative impact. Up until then all other pairs of years leveled out.

Ch. Schneider: 2006 was not a normal year since money was saved.

Juha: If we don't change direction we will run out of money, we need to find ways to add revenue, e.g. co-sanctioning PDGA events. This would bring revenue every year. PDGA however is not offering even 5\$ sanctioning fee per player in 2007.

Currently WFDF is being sustained mostly by Ultimate generated revenue. It seems fair to ask for money from other disc sports as well.

Jeroen: PDGA revenues: Even if PDGA would give a 5\$ fee/person it would not be enough. We need an extra 10,000 \$/year. We need something else.

Juha: WFDF can grow through Regional Championship programs. We had hoped to get extra revenue in odd years through these.

Leon Smith: Question to Juha: Communication & Internet: Why increase?

Juha: Number was even higher. Nob thinks there will be more (phone) meetings with new Exec. Director. Nob wanted to leave that figure there.

Leon: WFDF Official memberships? Juha: Dues payments for GAISF, IWGA, WADA
If we continue within IWGA movement we will have more costs related to WADA and Anti-Doping expenses.

Ch. Schneider: Official Memberships includes travel fees? Juha: The costs of attending meetings is meant by travel fees. Also travel costs here are directly related to official membership affairs.

Sarah: The travel topic is part of administration expenses.

Ch. Schneider: Suggests to expand top level items more (e.g. like 6800 Administration) in future financial reports.

Mauricio Moore: Many players are not interested to be a member in World feds. This could be better if more WFDF events took place in South America. Make new players grow up with knowing more about federations and that it is important to be a part of them. We have to grow up.

Another voice on the topic of regional growth initiative.

12:42h

Financial Proposals

The WFDF Executive Committee submits the following Financial Proposals for Congress Approval:

Proposal 1 – 2005 Financial Report: Approve 2005 Financial Report (see separate report, along with auditors' statement).

Proposal 2 – 2007 Dues: Maintain normal dues structure at current level: US\$1.25 per association member, as reported in the annual census, subject to a minimum level of US\$250 and a maximum level of US\$3,000.

Proposal 3 – Special Dues Level: Establish a mechanism for a "Special Terms of Payment" for member associations in developing countries. Dues for countries qualifying for such terms would be established in 2007 at 50% of the normal dues level. A member association would submit a proposal to the board requesting qualification for such terms based on (a) general per capita income level of the country and (b) internal membership structure and financial limitations. The board would be empowered to accept or reject such applications at its discretion and it is anticipated that few applications would be accepted.

Proposal 4 – Members with Dues in Arrears: As indicated above, there are seven members associations that are two or more years in arrears with their dues. The board intends to review the situation with each of these members, each of which is currently not in good standing, and ascertain whether payment can be made in full or under some sort of reasonable arrangement. Congress hereby empowers the board during 2007 to consider and approve payment arrangements with these members, including in its discretion something other than payment in full. In the absence of reaching an arrangement satisfactory to the board, membership of these associations will be terminated in accordance with the Bylaws.

Proposal 5 – 2007 Event Sanctioning Fees: For 2007, WFDF may sanction the following events (not all of which are definitely going to be held), with sanctioning fees as stated: (a) The World Overall Championship – US\$20 per participant; (b) Pan-American Ultimate Championship – US\$5.00 per participant; (c) Regional Ultimate Championships (e.g. Austral-Asian Ultimate Championship) – US\$5.00 per participant; and (d) PDGA-WFDF World Disc Golf Championship – US\$5.00 per participant.

Proposal 6 – Approval of 2007 Budget: Approve 2007 Budget (see separate report). A preliminary budget for 2008 and 2009 is included for a longer term perspective.

Questions:

Leon: Does proposal 3 (Special Dues Level) apply to Non-OECD countries? E.g. put these OECD countries on a 10 year plan

Sarah: Dues in arrear. If a country is attending a tournament it will bring in money.

So far only Venezuela has requested such a decrease. Therefore WFDF thinks it won't be many countries applying. If many countries ask for this, it would have to be re-decided.

Leon seconds proposal 3.

Barry: Can we do all proposals at once? Juha: Is someone here who votes against any of the 6 proposals?

Ch. Schneider Comment proposal 2: Why limit the 3000 \$? Does this apply to only UPA? Juha: No: PDGA, AFDA, JFDA

Leon: Proposal 4 is problematic for him

Sarah: What exactly is problematic?

Leon: Which members are in arrears? Why?

Jeroen: Irish, Slovakian, Hong Kong, Brazil, Russian, Freestyle Players, Venezuela (see Nobs report)

Sarah: Hong Kong must have enough money since they just ran a tournament with 60\$ players fee and 10 teams attending.

Proposal 4 could apply just to Venezuela and the Freestyle Players Association.

Leon: If Venezuela has just pickup it might be good if they just be Associate Member.

Juha: Associate Membership will be scrapped.

In favor:

Proposal 1: All incl. Ch. Schneider

Proposal 2: Leon: Has 3,000\$ cap ever been increased? No, there was a ramp up option when new scheme was introduced: from 1,600 to 2,400 to 3,000\$. It is too late to raise the upper cap for 2007 now.

Voting in favour: all

3 all

4 all

5 Leon: Should it be more than 5\$? Sarah: This might even be too much for local players.

Vote: all in favour

6 7 in favour, Switzerland against

Comments by Ch. Schneider:

- Ultimate committee: There needs to be sufficient time to translate rules to be ready for the season
- get Ultimate committee documents
- Olympic movement: Would like to see a number in the budget stating how much the Olympic Movement really costs WFDF as it is quite high.

End conference call 13:11h

6 in favour (Canada not present, Ch. Schneider left, vote will come in later).

7. Elections

Election of audit committee: Johan Lindgren and Jeroen Pouwels

8. Membership applications

No membership applications

9. Other management reports

Moro: IOC Sports for All meeting in Cuba, Grass roots development movement, please mention at Workshop

Other management reports covered in President's Report.

10. Committee Reports

Partially covered by President's Report; see also Ultimate Committee report

11. WFDF Bylaws rewrite process

Covered in President's Report

12. Membership reports

No membership reports

13. Other business

Rü: Key issues: Involvement of our members and communication with them. This is especially true evident with the changes in Bylaws and rules which has caused frustration in the past

Juha: This will improve

14. Date and Time of next Congress

Have Congress start one day earlier, e.g. Friday. It was done that way in Turku and worked out well.

Apparently many Asian members did not know about the Congress.

Asian meeting tonight was communicated well, but it put Congress back down in priority.

In 2007 there is only the World Overall Championships. The location is unknown, perhaps in Ithaca. Should congress be held there?

Leon: Suggested Brazil during the World Beach Championships. Juha: Not our Worlds. Rü: If WFDF reps are in Brazil, it would be good to have it there.

Juha: WOC would be better as a way to keep in touch with the other sports.

No proposal, no decision.

Juha: Proposed to let the board decide the location, Barry seconds, all in favour (without Ch. Schneider. and Canada).

13:23 h

Juha closes meeting.