

**Sunday, March 11, 2012**

Conference Call at 1400 UTC (2300 Tokyo, 2200 Chinese Taipei, 1500 Germany, 1400 UK/Lisbon, 1000 NY, 0800 Denver, 0700 Vancouver)

**Board members present:** Nob Rauch, Patrick van der Valk, Thomas Griesbaum, Simon Hill, Jack Cooksey, Kate Bergeron, Fumio Morooka , Ryan Scott, Michael Hu  
Also attending: Volker Bernardi, executive director, non-voting.

**Board members absent:** Sandie Hammerly, Brian Gisel

**Call to order**

**Report by the President**

Nob Rauch met with Fumio Morooka and other WUGC 2012 TOC members in Japan (while on a business trip) and discussed the organizers' plans for WUGC in Sakai and received an update on JFDA activities.

**Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 21, 2012** – Updated minutes had been submitted as part of Board Briefing book. Motion to approve by Nob Rauch, second Kate Bergeron. Approved unanimously.

**Decisions between meetings: None.**

**Events**

AOUC 2011, PAUC 2011

Volker Bernardi reported that he hasn't received the final report for AOUC 2011. He has received a report from PAUC 2011 by Maurice Moore written in Spanish, but the English translation hasn't arrived yet.

WUGC 2012

Fumio Morooka gave an update on participation numbers as compared to the information in the Board Briefing book: 13 Open teams and 10 Women's teams have now registered and numbers are expected to go up as the deadline approaches. The TV program has almost been finalized with plans for broadcasting on nation wide TV. A DVD will be produced for all participating countries. The TOC has asked for government support just recently and expects a reply next month.

Simon Hill confirmed that he hadn't identified any potential problems with the planning of the event. He raised the question if the teams' booking of hotel rooms directly instead through the TOC would affect WUGC's income. Morooka does not see a conflict with the budget. Morooka mentioned that there are still discussions about merchandising and that there are several plans.

Simon Hill reported that, in the new WFDF Women Masters Division, six or seven nations had confirmed interest and he hadn't heard about a team pulling out. So far signed up are: GB, JAP, CAN, GER with confidence that AUS and USA will join, too.

WJUC 2012

Currently the TOC is trying to find a school class accommodation for people to sleep on floors, and to make participation cheaper for more countries to come, Simon Hill reports.

Class room accommodation will not be available to countries who do not need a cheaper accommodation. Mark Kendall (last WJUC TD) is helping to connect people and offering the cheap rooms to those who need it. This should raise numbers of participation. Plans for merchandising chances are in the works.

#### WU23 2013

Simon Hill confirmed the contract was signed. He was confident that WU23 would be run well, especially with the help and experience of Brian Gisel. If the face-to-face Board Meeting were to take place in May in Toronto, Hill will check the facilities for WU23 2013.

#### WUCC 2014 - status and question about splitting WUCC into separate divisions

Simon Hill saw a need for clarification of many elements of the Italian bid. He will write to Massimiliano Vitali with his specific questions and will also meet him towards the end of April to see the fields and check the distances between the accommodation and the fields. Depending on the outcome it might be considered to split the WUCC into different divisions hosted at different events/locations. A discussion ensued about whether it were likely to get bids for split WUCC's by previously interested parties from Mexico, Dominican Republic or Seattle. Simon Hill favored going out and asking for new bids with new deadlines over signing a bid with which WFDF is not fully comfortable. Volker Bernardi mentioned that all three parties already have been asked if they were interested in hosting a split WUCC but haven't replied yet.

Alternatively it was discussed how WFDF could make sure that an all-division WUCC in Italy would be run fully to WFDF standards. It was agreed that a decision about how to proceed will be made after Simon Hill has visited M. Vitali. Volker Bernardi should continue efforts to get statements of interest from Mexico, Dominican Republic and Seattle and when they could finalize bids, preferably by the end of March.

#### PAUCC 2013, AOUC 2013

Simon Hill reported that so far no bids had been received after a first call for bids through WFDF Memberlink and the web site. It was decided that a new call for bids should be made through WFDF Memberlink and the WFDF web site with a new deadline at the end of May.

#### Tournament Bid Packages

Nob Rauch commented that the Tournament Bid Package that was revised in the early spring of 2011 should be reviewed by the Ultimate Committee to ensure that it is complete and outlines the bid parameters properly. Nob has discussed with Simon Hill the desire to have such review completed by the UC Events Subcommittee by the end of May. Nob Rauch agreed to discuss the timing offline directly with Simon Hill.

#### Liability Insurance

Nob Rauch explained that TDs were having problems with getting liability insurance which would also cover WFDF officials and not only the TOC. Sandie Hammerly has spoken to our insurance carrier and said that costs could be reduced if WFDF obtained such insurance for all sanctioned events. In response to Kate Bergeron's question, such an insurance policy would cost WFDF US\$1500 - 2500 per event and would be reimbursed by the TOCs out of tournament revenues.

#### Medals RFP

At the request of Sandie Hammerly, Volker Bernardi had drafted a RFP for medals for 2012 and future. It should serve as a basis to make a more economically priced decision when buying medals. In the past all medals had been ordered at only one company (Craig in USA) . But it is getting late and a decision for a new vendor should be made within next two weeks.

### **WFDF Governance**

Regarding the location and date of Congress 2012, Volker Bernardi explained that four alternative dates had been proposed to WFDF's member associations. Their feedback shows that July 14/15 would be suited best to maximize participation. He has already requested a schedule suggestion from WUGC TOC for that weekend. Morooka confirmed that on July 14/15 there will be a meeting room booked. Nob Rauch asked Volker Bernardi to send this information to members and put it on the WFDF web site. He proposed to announce Congress for Saturday and Sunday mornings, giving attendees a chance to leave on Sunday afternoon.

### Face to Face Board meeting

As the result of a poll among Board members Nob Rauch announced May 19/20 in Toronto as the date for the meeting. If this date does not work out the meeting must be postponed until Fall. The final decision will be taken in a few days when those who said they were likely to come will have confirmed their availability.

### IOC recognition

Volker Bernardi reported that we have sent a letter to IOC to start the recognition procedure, in response to which we then received a questionnaire from IOC that has been forwarded to the Board for review. WFDF is requested to send in documentation dating back three years. We must answer questions about our policies and will have to amend some of our bylaws (e.g. concerning CAS, the Court of Arbitration for Sport). It is also necessary to collect certain information from WFDF's members as well as verifying that we have all the member documents as requested. The last step will be to circulate a draft of our reply to the questionnaire for board approval before sending in to the IOC. The board was in agreement that we should move forward with this and attempt to meet the April 30 deadline for this year's review cycle.

### WFDF member files

Volker Bernardi: Some NFs still must translate their documents to English, some haven't even replied.

### Membership requests: Mongolia, Iran etc.

Volker Bernardi reported that there are two NFs in Mongolia which have submitted documents which look official. The same goes for Uganda, which also expressed interest in participating at the WUGC 2012. Then there are requests from Provisional Members Panama, China and Israel for Regular Membership. Panama has fulfilled all requests with certain documents from China and Israel still missing. Bernardi asked for a motion to accept Panama as Regular Member. Nob Rauch put forward the motion to accept Panama as WFDF Regular Member and Simon Hill seconded. The Board voted unanimously to accept Panama's application. Bernardi advised that both China and Israel had announced to send missing documents by around today. Since both countries plan to send teams to the WUGC 2012 Rauch suggests that if WFDF receives the full document package within a week, then there should be an electronic Board vote on the

proposals followed by an electronic vote at the Congress level by the WFDF Member associations.

#### Merchandising Policy

Due to Sandie Hammerly's absence no contribution.

#### Bylaws revision/Conduct Policy

Nob Rauch outlined the changes required by IOC and asked for comments:

- Final appeal process with CAS (Article 10)
- Conforming changes including a CAS appeal in the Conduct Policy
- Technical matters: Bylaws state the audit is to be done by an Audit Committee, but WFDF already is using the service of a professional auditor
- Board composition to always have at-large members, Quorum adjusted to 50%+1
- Proxies at Board level (which are already allowed at the Congress level)

Kate Bergeron and Simon Hill raised concerns about the introduction of CAS and were worried that this might be controversial for our members. Nob Rauch clarified that CAS is not for civil damages etc. but that it does include Anti-Doping matters as well as disciplinary items, eligibility, etc. With no other major issues, Nob Rauch moved to approve these changes in the Bylaws and put them forward for an electronic Congress vote. Kate Bergeron seconded the motion. The Board voted to accept these changes with one abstention.

#### EU/EFDF Issues Regarding Continental representation

Thomas Griesbaum reported that the European Ultimate Federation (EUF) is in the process of setting up a legally incorporated association. In talks with the designated EUF President Andrea Furlan it was agreed that the role of EFDF should be the representation of all Flying Disc sports whilst the role of EUF should focus on Ultimate only. They agreed in principle that:

- EFDF and EUF should be legally incorporated
- EUF would be registered in Austria
- EFDF would be registered in Germany
- EUF would operate Ultimate Tournaments in Europe
- EFDF would represent all Flying Disc sports towards IOC, EOC and EU

#### Census

There are no comments about the Census as presented. It should be circulated to Members in 3-4 days with responses requested by April 15, and will serve as the basis for invoicing of WFDF members for 2012.

#### Member Opinion Survey

Nob Rauch stated that a Member Opinion Survey (separate from the Census) will be done later this Spring, similar to last year's version.

#### **Ultimate issues:**

##### Subcommittee membership

Simon Hill reported that the Ultimate Committee had a conference call in February and that they intend to hold them once every quarter. He then gave a run down on the activities of the Ultimate Subcommittees. A concern is the currently lack of representation

of the US on the Championships Subcommittee.

### **Finance**

#### Member Dues Status

Nob Rauch mentions that WFDF managed to get dues from 100% of our Member Associations for 2011. Invoices for 2012 will be sent once the Census is complete.

#### Financial Summary

Nob Rauch gave a summary of the preliminary financial report prepared by Treasurer Hammerly and described WFDF's finances as better than plan. Membership dues in 2011 were US\$18,700 higher than budgeted (vs. being US\$2,700 below budget in 2010). The players' fees are still to be paid by the PAUC 2011 but they are expected to arrive soon. The income for 2011 is US\$69,000, roughly as budgeted, expenses were US\$101,500, less than the US\$124,000 budgeted. As a result, the actual loss was only 32,000 vs. a budgeted loss of US\$55,000 US\$. At year end 2011 the cash balance was around US\$246,000.

### **Anti-Doping**

#### Anti-Doping Program Implementation

Volker Bernardi reported that the registered testing pool (RTP) is up and running without problems. Before the end of March, athletes in the testing pool must report their planned whereabouts for next 3 months. Bernardi is in contact with the WUGC tournament director and NADA Japan about in- and out-of-competition testing.

### **Non-Ultimate**

#### Guts Committee report

Ryan Scott gave a run down on current participation at Guts division at WUGC 2012. As of now it looks like there will be only 5 nations: Australia, Japan, Chinese Taipei, U.S.A. and India, with the first 4 nations strongly committed. Scott's proposal to help more nations sending a Guts team by allowing them to use Guts players also as injury subs for their Ultimate team was deemed ineffective by TOC since most Ultimate teams had 20-24 players on their rosters already. Sweden won't be able to send a team, Canada is still waiting to reply, and Germany hasn't sent a reply to Scott's last inquiries. The board urged Scott to keep working to get the required minimum of six participants.

#### Overall Committee report

Jack Cooksey explained his interest in having WFDF sanction the 2012 US Open in Santa Barbara. It would raise the importance of the event if WFDF medals would be awarded and likely attract more participants, although not as many as in WOC last year. Nob Rauch stated that the US Open Overall is not a WFDF championship and that the WOC held every other year is WFDF's current World championship event. Cooksey will rethink his proposal. Cooksey is in contact with Swedish SFF who had indicated they might be willing to host WOC 2013. Cooksey would like to nominate an Overall player from Canada for the Overall Committee. He was also in contact with Japanese players and through this could make the Overall committee more international. Nob Rauch explains that as Chair Person he may appoint whoever seems fit to him and should just report new members on the committee to Executive Director Bernardi.

#### Disc golf and Freestyle

Nob Rauch had sent a letter to WFDF's official disc golf contacts outside the U.S.A.

asking them if they would be interested in providing WFDF with input on Disc golf matters. There was a positive reply from Austria but a negative reply from the PDGA representative in Czech Republic. PDGA is planning a European championship this year. Nob Rauch plans to contact the Frisbee Freestyle Players Association (FPA) in the next few weeks.

### **Communications**

#### Website - step 2: WFDF OFFICE

Volker Bernardi reports that he met again with André Kruse (IT) about Phase 2 of the web site project. There should be a system to file and archive files. Each Board member should propose a structure needed for his/her needs. Plans should be finished by the end of March. The complete system should be finished by the end of June. The final versions will enable Board members to share and work on documents, similar to dropbox.

#### Use of Social Media

Volker Bernardi explained that Facebook and Twitter are used by many people and that most international federations are using them. If they are used as a tool for communication, however, then they will have to be looked after as a daily task, since its users expect quick replies. Patrick van der Valk noted that it might be hard to find someone to respond knowledgeably about all aspects of WFDF. Nob Rauch added that it is hard to have official responses, as "official responses" often take time to develop as input from all relevant parties is compiled. Nonetheless, we are probably compelled to have a presence on Twitter and Facebook as they have become so ubiquitous. Volker Bernardi pointed out that for other associations Social Media has been a problem. We don't have time to use Social Media for chatting about our sport. Nob Rauch suggested there be further discussion about this with perhaps Thomas Griesbaum, Volker Bernardi, Patrick van der Valk and Simon Hill, as the board's more tech-savvy contributors.

#### Other communication issues

Nob Rauch mentions that it is time for another Newsletter. The question if WFDF should continue to use Yahoo Groups and WFDF-Memberlink depends on the functionalities of the new WFDF Office.

### **Next Meeting**

Proposed date: April 14th weekend, to be confirmed

The meeting closed at UTC 16:20.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary