

Sunday January 22, 2017; UK, POR- 14:00; GER, SUI, SWE- 15:00; RSA- 16:00, QAT- 17:00; USA NY, VA, MI 09:00; USA CO, AZ 07:00; USA CA, CAN BC 06:00; Japan 23:00; Taiwan 22:00; Philippines 22:00.

Board members present:

Robert "Nob" Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Kate Bergeron, Charlie Mead, Steve Taylor, Fumio Morooka, Caroline Malone, Ryan Purcell.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, (Executive Director, non-voting), Karina Woldt (Event Manager, non-voting), Tim Rockwood (non-voting), Rob McLeod (non voting)

Board members absent/excused:

Brian Gisel, Tomas Burvall, Kevin Givens, Karen Cabrera, Jamie Nuwer, Michael Hu.

Call to order (time: 15:09 CET)

The quorum was reached with 8 votes of 8/14 needed.

Report by the President

Rauch welcomed the Board members and thanked all for participating.

Decisions between meetings

None.

Minutes of meeting of 11 December 2016 meeting

Rauch advised that the meeting minutes were produced late, needed editing, and would be circulated later in the week.

Decisions requiring votes or input from the Board

Commercial and Broadcast plans for 2016-2017

Rauch reported that now that the two month contract with Rockwood has expired but he has agreed to continue to work without a contractual stipend. Rockwood explained that he had contacted 85 companies but has not been successful in interesting a potential sponsor. He added that after the semi-pro Ultimate league MLU had folded he had reached out to their previous sponsors. There are still a number of companies on his target list and Rockwood will continue to pursue those in the weeks to come. Jamie Nuwer had put together a list of Silicon Valley contacts and he is also going to be working with her to pursue those.

He has had weekly phone calls with the TOC of WCBU 2017, who is providing a budget of EUR 18,000 for video streaming from the event. There are six companies bidding for the production contract.

Rauch asked whether the EUR 18,000 budget would only result in basic footage. Rockwood confirmed that was the case but outlined that it should be sufficient for a three camera setup on the showcase field. Rockwood added that he is willing to offer to potential sponsors a package including WCBU 2017 in France and WUCC 2018 in the USA. Rauch mentioned that he is going to join the USAU Board meeting next weekend to talk about WUCC 2018 and joint marketing measures between WFDF and USAU. USAU have been talking to ESPN about moving up from ESPN3 to ESPN2. They are also working to approach NBC Sports through the USOC, as NBC is the US partner of the Olympic Channel. WFDF's involvement with the Olympic Channel may open up avenues. Rauch would be meeting with a number of USOC staff and members while out for the USAU Board meeting.

A decision about the production at WCBU in Royan would have to be taken by the end of February. He added that the US\$25,000 investment by WFDF in 2016 at WUGC for the production was made with the hope that it would catalyze funding and broadcast telecasts in the future. It is frustrating that disc sports, whether at WFDF, USAU, or the semi-pro league level, have yet to find a major sponsor. Rockwood mentioned that the TOC in Cincinnati has a substantial budget to cover the production costs at WUCC 2018.

IT project and website revamp

Rauch referenced the proposal submitted by Taylor who has offered to donate work by his staff to revamp and update the WFDF website. The project would take about three months and he would take this as a normal business project and try to get it done before the summer in the US. He wanted to start by interviewing Rauch and Bernardi to find out about the requirements. The CMS (Word Press) would be free but there could be costs perhaps for a few plugins.

Rauch expressed great appreciation for the offer but asked about maintenance which is clearly important. He asked whether this was run by Kruse who has been providing WFDF's IT services since 2011. Taylor thought that it would be McLeod's and Malone's job to keep things up to date. Looking at the budget he did not feel that WFDF could afford much.

Rauch stated that we would need to have Bernardi review all changes and updates to ensure the correct protocol was observed for published materials on the website. Taylor confirmed that before anything gets put out it would be possible to get the approval by Bernardi.

Rauch insisted that if WFDF gets hacked revisions must be done how this could be planned as Kruse has been very responsive in the past in emergencies and whether WFDF would still have that kind of support. Taylor commented that the server is hosted in Germany. Once new website would be up and running only the Software needs to be updated. WFDF still could use Kruse as a support.

Bernardi commented that it was important to contact Kruse and really talk things through, which still has not been done since he participated in the December Board meeting discussion about the topic. There is a need to view a project like this in a broader context. Despite its importance, Rauch commented that a full-blown event management and registration system is not in today's scope as this would be a very massive project. Clearly, we have severe budget constraints.

Rauch concluded that one should be going through the proposal and the generous offer sent in by Taylor to provide services, finding out what on-going maintenance needs would be, and making the decision on the project within 2-3 weeks. Taylor agreed to reach out to Kruse to get his input.

Malone gave explanations on content changes. Basically she went through most of the pages on our site. The development section and new documents still need to be approved. A final one is history and she found there was a lot of contradicting information. A solution could be talking to people who have done research before, such as disc history authors like Jim Palmeri.

Mead added that there has always been haziness to the history, some of which was quite deliberate. WFDF could discern between history pre-WFDF and the actual start in 1985 and one should refer to history before through books. WFDF needs to present its own history. Rauch added that in the 1970s people were making up stuff to make things sound more interesting. He thought that WFDF needs the history of the disc and of Frisbee games morphing into a sport as many journalists visit the WFDF website to find background information. WFDF should highlight key facts with little controversy to serve as the definitive source.

Malone asked when trying to get more information about the history of WFDF who would be the right person to talk to. Rauch suggested Mead, Roddick, Rauch and Scott Keasey (Disc Golf Association) as a starting list of people to talk to.

2017 World Games list of officials - approval

Bernardi presented the proposed list of WFDF officials for the 2017 World Games Ultimate event. Additional accreditations like for an official commentator for streaming would be served under Media slots.

A motion was made by Rauch to approve the initial accreditation list, seconded by Bergeron. The motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF 2017 Anti-Doping Testing Pool composition - approval

Bernardi presented the list of Testing Pool members for Anti-Doping out-of-competition testing in 2017 including athletes selected from the countries attending the World Games Ultimate event with 6 men and 3 women. Masahiro Matsuno (JPN) is to be added to the list of men.

A motion was made to approve of the Pool by Purcell, seconded by Taylor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Requirement of 100% advanced rules accreditation

The discussion topic was tabled for the next Board meeting, due to Gisel's absence.

WFDF Sport for All / Development Commission composition

Bernardi presented the new composition of the Commission with a new chair and Vice-chair. The aim is to try to get a better regional representation reflecting the action focus for development and people who will actually do the work with now a smaller group. Tasks are development questions, recommendations on development grants funding projects and support for the global expansion of WFDF.

Mead reminded that the Commission also should reflect other Disc sports than Ultimate. Bernardi agreed and asked Mead to propose a representative as soon as he could. Purcell added that he knew many of the Commission members and they are open to other sports.

A motion was made to approve of the Commission composition by Griesbaum, seconded by Mead and the motion was approved unanimously.

WFDF Sustainability Officer - appointment

Bernardi presented the proposal to appoint Johanna von Toggenburg as first ever WFDF Sustainability Officer addressing this major focus area of the IOC requirements to IFs. Tasks of the Officer would be giving advice on WFDF's event sustainability, operate the Sustainable Sport Event Toolkit (SSET) and help on the evaluation of Development projects regarding their effectiveness and sustainability.

A motion was made to approve of the nomination by Malone, seconded by Mead. The motion was approved unanimously.

Development Grants and Program - report 2016 and next steps

Malone reported on people already contacting WFDF and expressing interest in receiving grants for the year 2017. More countries are getting interested.

At the recent tournament in Amman, there was an organizational meeting held and this can be seen as an important step to managing the pipeline of applications better. From the groups attending, Lebanon is applying to become a WFDF member, and perhaps also Palestine and Jordan.

A motion was made to approve of the new application documents and the project forms by Taylor, seconded by Bergeron and the motion was approved unanimously.

Reports and Updates

WFDF Governance

Athlete's Commission Report

Purcell reported that there was a brief meeting attended by three members in December and there would be another one soon.

2016 Membership dues invoices

Bernardi reported that from all those invoiced only Morocco remains unpaid for 2016. On the 2017 census Rauch asked that this should be sent out with a first deadline for responses set to end of February.

Disc Sport Reports

Disc Golf

Mead reported that he has identified a potential WFDF Disc Golf Ambassador and approached an initial candidate. He again has contacted potential candidates for the Disc Golf Committee.

On WTDGC 2017 he reported that PDGA had signed off a MoU but withdrew because certain of their board felt there was a conflict with PDGA's policies. WFDF is now to run the event without a MoU with PDGA.

Guts

Taylor reported that he has reached out to Hu that he will go to the Asia Oceanic Championships.

Freestyle

No report was given.

Overall

No report was given.

Beach Ultimate

No report was given.

Championship Events and others

2017 events - report

Woldt reported that she is a bit behind in kicking off the 2017 events, but will launch registrations soon. In general she like to start this earlier. The WCBU is going smoothly. Some teams have pulled out and it has been decided not to replace them with another team. On AAUCC the organisers in Africa had lost the venue but are getting another one now. Raflo (PAUCC) in Argentina is working though the bid list and this will be smaller than initially anticipated due to the high flight costs.

2017 TDGWC

No additional report was given here.

Finance

Treasurer report

Bergeron reported that the last payment from VC Ultimate was received last week. The closing of 2016 is going quite well and a preliminary version of the financial report can be found at the end of the briefing book.

Appointment of a new auditor

Bergeron reported that she is making a proposal to switch auditors to a company for which the current bookkeeper has worked with fine. WFDF gets a good quality from the current firm (JDS) but one can

hope to get a better and quicker customer service from the new company. It will cost around US\$3.000 annually.

Rauch added that this requires a Congress vote, too, as Congress must approve the choice of auditors for the year.

A motion was made to approve of the proposal by Rauch, seconded by Griesbaum. The motion was approved unanimously. It will now be sent to Congress for a vote.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was proposed for 4/5 March 2017.

Closing: 16:47 CET

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary