

Membership Report

2007 Census Results (representing data from member associations for the year 2006)

Summary of active player numbers: Full census details at http://wfdf.org/summary census 2007.php

Country	Organisation			Member	ship	
Country	Organisation	Total	Men	Women	Under 19	Over 35
Regular Member M	lembership					
Australia	AFDA	3101	1895	1206	290	350
Austria	ÖFSV	396	284	112	56	76
Belgium	BFDF	600	300	80	150	40
Canada	CUPA	1473	910	563	225	165
Czech Republic	CALD	153	100	53	6	10
Denmark	DFSU	487	370	57	25	35
Finland	FFDA	583	364	219	163	43
France	FFDF	1356	1036	320	150	123
Germany	DFV	1033	753	280	66	487
Hong Kong	HKUPA	60	42	18	3	14
India	FDFI	240	130	110	140	30
Italy	FIFD	320	0	0	0	0
Japan	JFDA	2439	1507	932	388	79
Mexico	AMEDIVO	250	200	50	25	10
Netherlands	NFB	460	346	114	23	118
New Zealand	NZFDA	344	232	114	10	76
Norway	NFF	960	737	223	271	75
South Korea	KU	100	50	20	0	4
Sweden	SFF	777	347	137	250	579
Switzerland	SFSV	450	360	90	30	50
Switzerland	swiss discgolf	76	50	0	10	25
Taiwan	CTFDA	300	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	BDGA	105	99	6	16	35
United Kingdom	UKUA	1566	1138	428	124	53
Venezuela	AVU	198	398	78	42	6
Total		17827	11648	5210	2463	2483
Associate Member	Membership					
Brazil	FPD	75	60	15	15	10
Ireland	IFDA	275	195	80	60	5
Russian Federation	RFDF	298	0	0	0	0
Slovak Republic	SAF	76	0	0	0	0
South Africa	SAFDA	120	100	20	30	10
Spain	FEDV	125	0	0	0	0
Total		969	355	115	105	25

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Organisation						
International	FPA	180	0	0	0	0
International	PDGA	9629	7916	659	533	4135
United States	UPA	24633	17063	7570	4617	0
Total		34442	24979	8229	5150	4135
Provisional N	lember Me	embers	hip			
Costa Rica	CRUFT	40	28	12	2	6
Hungary	HUFA	138	104	34	38	0
Iceland	Iceland	0	0	0	0	0
Indonesia	IFDA	40	30	10	0	10
International	BULA	14	12	2	0	4
Israel	FLOW	503	390	112	130	373
Latvia	LFDF	63	33	30	29	2
Lithuania	LFDF	150	120	30	70	0
Philippines	PUA	200	100	100	30	15
Portugal	BUG-P	80	60	20	5	15
Singapore	UPA(S)	200	110	90	10	20
United States	USGPA	50	50	0	5	45
Total		1478	1037	440	319	490
Contact Mem	bership					
Argentina	ADDVRA	20	15	5	0	2
Chile	UFC	80	60	20	0	0
Egypt	EFDF	20	15	5	0	0
Estonia	EFDF	35	20	15	10	3
Luxembourg	LU	40	30	10	10	3
Morocco	UFMT	0	20	10	0	0
Puerto Rico	PR	40	30	10	0	0
Vietnam	HUC	40	18	22	2	4
Total		275	208	97	22	12
Total All Org	S	54991	38227	14091	8059	7145



Growth Rates in Reported Active Players

Many members reported substantial growth in comparison to membership numbers reported in 2006.

Association	2006 Census	2007 Census	Growth Percentage
Ireland (IFDA)	100	275	175.00%
Belgium (BFDF)	250	600	140.00%
South Africa (SAFDA)	90	120	33.33%
New Zealand (NZFDA)	270	344	27.41%
Norway (NFF)	758	960	26.65%
UK Ultimate (UKUA)	1256	1566	24.68%
Australia (AFDA)	2594	3101	19.55%
UPA	22079	24633	19.55%
France (FFDF)	1218	1356	11.33%
Netherlands (NFB)	422	460	9.00%
Austria (ÖFSV)	364	396	8.79%
Sweden (SFF)	715	777	8.67%
Lithuania (LFDF)		150 (hasn't reported in the past)	
Luxembourg (LU)		40 (hasn't reported in the past)	

Four members reported a substantial decline in active players.

Association	2006 Census	2007 Census	Growth Percentage
South Korea (KUPA)	226	100	-55.75%
Brazil (FPD)	134	75	-44.03%
India (FDFI)	313	240	-23.32%
Italy (FIFD)	380	320	-15.79%

Discussion:

Total growth rate across all WFDF Members is 8.47%.

Growth numbers in Ireland seems to be tied to enthusiastic volunteers on their board of directors. The Irish Flying Disc Federation's webpage posts weekly updates of all the events, tournaments, results and stories which is helping to create a great community. On the other hand, Belgium's numbers might not as clearly represent growth. They are happy to announce that figures reported for 2008 will be much more accurate as members will now have to register to the Belgian Flying Disc Federation.

In South Africa, a new association was formed in 2006: Cape Town Ultimate. Players from Khayelitsha have committed to travelling to Cape Town to help the development in the Cape Town area. It's also great news to hear that their focus is in bringing ultimate to youth, which will encourage longer term growth in the country.

The Canadian Ultimate Players Association (CUPA) has not reported growth for several years. This can be equated to a declining state of the Canadian Ultimate Championship (CUC). CUPA membership is tied to participation in the national championship and 2006 had low attendance. It has been a major initiative to rejuvenate CUC and the 2007 Championship will be the largest ever in Canada with 80 teams participating (increased from 51 in 2006).

While numbers in Sweden are growing, it is somewhat concerning to note that almost 75% of active players are over 35.

New contacts reporting numbers is promising. Both Lithuania and Luxemburg have submitted information. In Luxemburg, the local government pays for Frisbee lessons for children aged 11-17.

Updates on Organizations

Several member associations seem to be in a state of re-organization and are working to regain efficiency in operations. In New Zealand, there has been quite a bit of turnaround and the New Zealand Flying Disc



Association is now operating as New Zealand Ultimate and New Zealand Disc Golf. There is some lack of cohesion existing between the groups, and New Zealand abstained from voting in the 2006 WFDF Board of Director Elections because of the state of their organization at the time. Italy's association has also been recently under reorganization as previous volunteers stepped down.

In a more positive example, JFDA named a new international representative, Makoto Ohi, who very quickly has embraced the new role, being very responsive in all WFDF matters including the census, applications for new records, applying the 2007 Rules of Ultimate, etc.

Updating WFDF of changes to personnel on boards of directors will be critical in continued efforts to improve WFDF communications with the membership. More time than necessary is spent tracking down the proper contact for various purposes. There also seems to be some disconnect in some WFDF Member Associations in disseminating communications from WFDF either to board members or active players of the member associations. This should be a priority moving forward in creating better international communication lines for all disc sport news.

The PDGA continues to be an Organizational Member of WFDF, however, following two years of negotiations, rejected a Memorandum of Understanding which essentially was a message to say that the PDGA was looking to take sole control of international disc golf. This was a great disappointment to WFDF. The first PDGA European Open took place in Tampere in August 2006. New Zealand also reported an increase in PDGA members allowing them to now host PDGA "C" Tier Events.

The British Disc Golf Association has elected to not renew its WFDF membership for 2007.

It was good to see some member associations report better detailed census information for 2007. France, Hong Kong and South Korea have all reported figures for Government Funding and Annual Financial Turnover where previously they have skipped over these parts.

WFDF has had difficulty reaching contacts from Russia, Slovak Republic and Spain. Venezuela continues to be solely represented by one person (Jesus Loreto) living outside Venezuela. The lack of organization within the Venezuelan Ultimate Association has made it difficult to solicit information from them on the state of disc sports in their country.

The Freestyle Players Association has been an Organizational Member since 2003, and despite dues arrears, is re-evaluating their WFDF membership and is open to developing a plan towards a better working relationship for the future based on redefining the value that WFDF Membership can bring the FPA.

Competitive Strength

Both Japan and Australia have shown growth in competitive level based on performance in major events. Australia's commitment to travel to play the top competition in the US and Canada has reaped rewards (Silver medal in World Games 2005, WUCC2006: silver and bronze in open, bronze in masters). Australia has also created a new position on their Board of Directors, the Director of High Performance. This position, combined with their commitment to establishing national team training camps one year in advance of WUGC 2008, show AFDA's continued efforts to promote highly competitive teams.

Japan dominated WUCC2006 with gold medals in three divisions (Open, Women, Masters). Further, the Japanese women took four of the top six spots in the final women's rankings, including a sweep of the medals.

Canada and the US remained the force to beat in the Mixed division of WUCC2006.



New Records – Given our location at the WOC, here is a list of records set over the course of 2006 and 2007 to date. New record holders hail from the USA, Sweden, Finland, Austria, and Japan. With the number of new records, and the young ages of many of the participants, this aspect of WFDF seems alive and well.

Distance

Men (45 and older):	177.00 m	Andy Lemann (USA)	10/16/06	Primm, NV
Boys (13 and younger):	157.00 m	Cody Kirkland (USA)	1/5/07	San Diego, CA
Boys (12 and younger):	123.00 m	Cody Kirkland (USA)	1/3/06	San Diego, CA
Boys (11 and younger):	147.60 m	David Wiggins (USA)	3/14/07	High Point, NC
Girls (10 and younger):	75.15 m	Rebecca Cox (USA)	6/8/07	Williamsburg, OH
Boys (7 and younger):	84.12 m	Nicholas Duran (USA)	4/1/07	Mesa, AZ
Girls (4 and younger):	18.00 m	Tova Källström (SWE)	10/21/06	Stockholm, SWE

Upside Down Distance

Women:	43.83 m	83 m Jenni Laakso (FIN)		Helsinki, FIN
Girls (10 and younger):	11.35 m	Diana El Nabriss (AUT)	4/22/07	Baden, AUT
Girls (8 and younger):	7.77 m	Mariam El Nabriss (AUT)	4/22/07	Baden, AUT
Boys (2 and younger):	1.71 m	Livio Stütz (AUT)	4/22/07	Baden, AUT

Roller Distance (Turf)

Boys (13 and younger):	183.00 m	Cody Kirkland (USA)	1/5/07	San Diego, CA
Boys (12 and younger):	148.00 m	Cody Kirkland (USA)	1/3/06	San Diego, CA

MiniDisc Distance

Girls (10 and younger):	11.80 m	Juliana Tiefenböck (AUT)	4/23/06	Baden, AUT
Boys (7 and younger):	37.82 m	Adrian Collantes (AUT)	4/22/07	Baden, AUT
Boys (2 and younger):	2.57 m	Michael Inschlag (AUT)	4/23/06	Baden, AUT
Boys (1 and younger):	1.13 m	Livio Stütz (AUT)	4/23/06	Baden, AUT

Indoor Distance

Boys (4 and younger): 22.78 m	Quinn Rocklinone (USA) 8/9/06	San Juan Capistrano, CA
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Maximum Time Aloft

Boys (14 and younger):	12.28	Cody Kirkland (USA)	6/7/07	Miramar, CA
Boys (6 and younger):	3.52	Hikaru Horii (JPN)	9/10/06	Shiga, JPN

Galactic MTA

Open:	20.52 s	Christer Fuglesang (SWE- ESA Astronaut)	12/15/06	Space Shuttle Discovery Mission STS-116
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Self Caught Flight

Men	(35 and older):	149.62 (14.84 s/ 68.00 m)	Jack Cooksey (USA)	7/4/06	Santa Cruz , CA	4
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Outdoor Accuracy

Women (65 and older):	3/28	Yoshiko Hayakawa (JPN)	2/10/07	Yasu-shi, Shiga-ken, JPN
Men (55 and older):	19/28	Mark Horn (USA)	7/4/06	Santa Cruz, CA

Guts Speed Throw

Boys (12 and younger):	84.00 km/hr	Toru Ochiai (JPN)	5/3/07	Chino-city, Nagano, JPN
Girls (8 and younger):	42.00 km/hr	Hidemi Yamamoto (JPN)	5/3/06	Chino-city, Nagano, JPN

Marathon Ultimate

Major Undertakings

AFDA had a big role with the Perth Tournament Organizing Committee in hosting WUCC2006. A three-fold legacy was reported:

- 1. Australian Ultimate has greatly expanded its capacity, knowledge and administrative skill;
- 2. The number of players in Australia who now have an experience of international level Ultimate vastly increased, with 20 Australian teams attending;
- 3. The tournament was financially successful it looks like \$100,000 (still to be confirmed) will be injected into the AFDA a fair profit considering the financial risks involved in hosting the event. Given the financial difficulties the association has experienced in the past, these funds will provide considerable financial stability for the association, whilst enabling a greater focus on development of the sport into the future.

At the 2006 July UPA retreat in Boulder, CO, the UPA staff and Board made the decision to embark on a sixteen-month journey to develop a comprehensive five-year strategic plan. The group made a firm commitment to include UPA members and non-members in every stage of the process. To ensure the plan meets the needs of present and future members, it was decided that thousands of voices from the Ultimate community would need to inform and ultimately chart the UPA's future. *Ultimate Revolution* is the name of the plan. Some of the topics being investigated include:

- What will the UPA do about the nagging public perception of Ultimate as a "non-sport"?
- Given that SOTG is so important to players (and the data show that it is), how can it be sustained at the highest level of competition?
- What will the UPA's stance be on officials (refs, observers) in Ultimate?
- What can/should the UPA do to increase opportunities for people to play the game at every level?
- Will the UPA attempt to engage former members? If so, how? Will new levels of membership be an option?
- What really is essential to Ultimate? What needs to be maintained, renewed, or dropped?
- Should we push hard at the grass-roots level and focus on upward growth? Or do we go with a topdown approach to achieving growth by trying to gain widespread recognition through venues like TV and ideas like a Pro League?
- Should the UPA provide services and support to Ultimate players outside the United States? If so, to what extent?