

Candidate Statement

Robert “Nob” Rauch

WFDF Elections 2012 – candidate



Name of candidate: Robert “Nob” Rauch
Position sought: President
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Nomination endorsed by: USA Ultimate (USA)

Candidate Statement

I I ask for your support for re-election as President of WFDF. When I ran two years ago, I felt that WFDF was at risk of failing to address the needs of its Members and outlined an agenda with five main cornerstones: communication, events, Olympic Movement involvement (and anti-doping), development, and professional management.

In my last two years as President, I believe we have greatly improved communication, totally revamping our website at the end of 2011, publishing a regular newsletter, and activating and personally managing a Facebook page. We focused upfront on our events to catch up on the bidding process which was woefully overdue, updated the tournament manual materials, and have decided to send a formal WFDF technical delegate to each main event in order to assist the local organizers. We introduced an updated Anti-Doping Code for WFDF and a regular testing program that was deemed in compliance by WADA in their crucial November 2011 report. In April 2012 we prepared and submitted our application for IOC recognition, and are hopeful that it will be approved by the middle of 2013. We supported a special development program in Colombia with Ultimate Peace and signed a memorandum of understanding with Peace & Sport. Finally, we have instituted better governance policies by having regular board meetings -- culminating in the first face-to-face board meeting in November 2012 -- and by establishing an Athletes Commission.

In the coming two years, challenges and opportunities abound. WFDF needs to figure out how to better organize and support our increasingly complex sanctioned events. The board is currently in the midst of finalizing a strategic plan and we will need to put the core elements into action. Irrespective of the timing or decision of the IOC on our application for recognition, we need to support globally our Member associations in their efforts to achieve national recognition and support, and to better coordinate with their national calendars. WFDF needs to enhance its efforts in the commercial arena to increase resources and visibility, in areas of merchandising, media, and sponsorship. And we need to continue to manage the global dialogue on spirit of the game and self-officiation, to ensure that there is a rational perspective regarding pressures for any changes to this core value.

I ask you to review my CV, where I outline my involvement with disc sports as a player and administrator since the mid-1970s. I have competed at the highest level of disc sports, with a number of World and US Ultimate Championships with several different teams from the 1980s and 1990s, and have held leadership positions in disc sports organizations since 1987. I also provide a bit of information on my professional career, which gives me confidence I can achieve what I set out to do. I believe my track record shows that I don't just have ideas, but I achieve tangible results, and have tackled some difficult situations in my time. Finally, as someone intimately involved in disc sports for over 35 years, I believe I have a perspective that WFDF needs in ensuring it makes the right decisions in the face of today's challenges of grappling with the Olympic Movement involvement, anti-doping requirements, financial concerns, and the increasingly competitive nature of our incumbent disc sports.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert "Nob" Rauch