

### **Saturday, April 28, 2012**

Conference Call at 2100 UTC (UK, POR- 22:00; GER- 23:00; USA NY, VA, MI 17:00; USA CO, AZ 15:00; USA CA, CAN BC 14:00; Japan 06:00 (Sunday April 29th); Taiwan 05:00 (Sunday April 29th))

**Board members present:** Nob Rauch, Patrick van der Valk, Thomas Griesbaum, Kate Bergeron (for first 20 min), Simon Hill, Jack Cooksey, Michael Hu, Sandie Hammerly, Fumio Morooka, Ryan Scott (after 30 min), Brian Gisel (after 20 min).  
Also attending: Volker Bernardi, executive director, non-voting.

**Board members absent:** (none)

### **Call to order**

#### **Report by the President**

President Rauch described as key topic of the meeting the application for IOC recognition. WFDF had planned to apply at the end of 2012, but Executive Director Bernardi had been advised that the application procedures would be changed soon and that WFDF should submit its application by April 30. Rauch saw a significant support for the application by the WFDF members during the last opinion survey. Also, IOC recognition for WFDF could help its members gain recognition of NOCs, as well. As part of the application WFDF needed to change its Bylaws, and set up a strategic plan as well as an Athletes' Commission. The Bylaws had been presented to Congress for electronic vote, the strategic plan has been drafted and a proposal has been made for the Athletes' Commission.

Rauch also reported that preparation of WFDF Congress 2012 in Sakai was well under way.

#### **Previous Minutes**

The updated minutes of the meeting of March 11, 2012, have been submitted as part of Board Briefing book. **Motion to approve by Nob Rauch, second Kate Bergeron. Approved unanimously.**

#### **Decisions between meetings**

Proposal 2012.1:

##### **WFDF Bylaws/Conduct Policy**

Do you approve the proposed changes to the WFDF Bylaws (approved by the WFDF Board of Directors 11 March 2012) as distributed to you via email on 27 March 2012?

**Out of 39 voting members 37 cast a vote. 33 voted yes, 4 abstained.**

In proposal 2012.2 WFDF members were asked to approve the application to become **National Member of WFDF** by Ultimate Association of China (UAC), Israel Flying Disc Association (FLOW) and Asociacion de Ultimate Frisbee de Panama (AUFP). The final votes were:

##### **Ultimate Association of China (UAC)**

**35 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention**

##### **Israel Flying Disc Association (FLOW)**

**37 yes**

## **Asociacion de Ultimate Frisbee de Panama (AUFPP)** **37 yes**

With these membership approvals during the year, Sandie Hammerly suggested that the new members should only pay 50% of the annual dues for 2012. **The Board agreed.**

### **Key Strategic Elements Requiring a Vote**

Application for IOC recognition

Patrick van der Valk suggested that the Board shall vote on the application for IOC recognition after also discussing the strategic plan and the proposal for an Athletes' Commission. Nob Rauch confirmed this order.

Volker Bernardi gave an overview about why WFDF wants to apply for IOC recognition much sooner than planned.

In the following discussion many questions were raised such as:

- Can WFDF re-apply should its application be turned down? Yes. WFDF can also submit updated material after submission and before IOC's decision.
- The approval process will take months, easily until December 2012 or longer.
- There is no annual IOC fee (or an application fee).
- Could IOC recognition bring in referees (in Ultimate or other disciplines)? Many people fear that IOC might insist on having impartial third persons arbitrate games and events, leading up to referees. Also, the new AUDL could be seen as a role model to support the IOC in its demand for referees. Bernardi reported that he had asked IOC representatives about this and had been informed that IOC leaves this decision to the international federations. Morooka confirmed that he had been told the same. There had been demands for referees in the early days of recognition through the International World Games Association, mainly by its former Sport Director, but not shared by all IWGA officers. IOC recognition of WFDF could actually help preserve self-arbitration in disc sports.

### WFDF Strategic Plan

Under this topic not only the newly presented strategic plan was discussed but also the answers in the IOC questionnaire.

One topic discussed at length was the representation of Disc Golf and Freestyle through WFDF. WFDF does represent members who pursue these disciplines and they are also part of the WFDF sanctioned World Overall Championships. In the questionnaire a discussion arose around the main three development programs, mainly about the question which of "Ultimate Peace" and "Spirit of the Game" should be mentioned.

It was agreed upon, that the strategic plan will need further refinement before but also after submission to IOC.

### Athletes' Commission

Bernardi emphasized that the IOC draws a lot of attention to Athletes' Commissions. Even though Board and ExComm of WFDF have many active athletes as its members,

IOC still insists that we set up an Athletes' Commission

Rauch introduced the proposal: The Commission should have 3 members to be elected at WUGC 2012 with 2 year terms. The Chair attends Board meetings as non-voting guest. We need to sort out voting scheme for Sakai.

Hammerly suggested that there should be at least one of each gender in the Commission.

It was discussed how the election process should be set up. Bernardi mentioned the prerequisites for candidates: They must be competing at world championships level and must have competed in at least one of the last two world championships.

Rauch proposed that a call for candidates be sent out to the WFDF members (NFs) with the request to circulate it (in the national language if needed) among the WUGC 2012 participants. It is important that during the elections in Sakai no language barrier will keep athletes from casting their vote. The deadline for candidate nominations should be 30 days before the WUGC.

Proposed amendments to the WFDF Athletes' Commission:

- 1) At least one member of each gender must be on the Commission
- 2) A call for candidates shall be circulated to the NFs who shall distribute it to its participants of the WUGC 2012.

## **Votes**

(By the time of these votes Patrick van der Valk, Jack Cooksey and Kate Bergeron had left the phone conference.)

**Rauch asked for a straw poll to decide if the disciplines Disc Golf and Freestyle should remain in the IOC questionnaire as disciplines featured in WFDF:**

**6 yes, 1 no**

(no vote from Brian Gisel, but quorum reached with 6 yes)

**The IOC application will be revised and circulated tomorrow. Comments of Board members will be taken until late April 29 and then the Board will vote.**

**7 yes, 2 abstentions**

(Kate Bergeron had given vote proxy)

## **WFDF Strategic Plan**

**9 yes**

(Kate Bergeron had given vote proxy)

## **Athletes Commission (including amendments)**

**9 yes**

(Kate Bergeron had given vote proxy)

Bernardi reminded that the application email must be sent to IOC in Switzerland within

Swiss time zone on April 30, 2012.

### Budget for 2013

Hammerly introduced the proposed budget for 2013. Overall it is conservatively calculated so it should work out well. Notable:

- WFDF will continue to send WFDF officials to events and it is in the budget
- There is no history on expenses for drug testing
- Should there be a budget for an emergency backup plan for the WFDF web site?
- In the budget is also planned to have an annual face to face Board meeting

Hill noted that with WFDF's current assets it should consider to employ another full time officer, e.g. to give more support to event organizers and be more in touch with them. This could even be a source of new revenue.

Rauch proposed that he work together with Hill to define such a position.

### Vote on WFDF Budget 2013

Rauch motioned to approve the budget, Hammerly seconded

**8 yes, 1 no**

### Events

#### WUGC 2012

Morooka reported that currently 24 countries from 5 continents had teams signed up with several new countries among them. Guts teams from 8 countries had signed up

#### WJUC 2012

Hill reported that there is an option to have a limited number of cheaper accommodations. It still needed to be decided which countries/teams may use these options.

#### WU23 2013 (nothing new)

#### WUCC 2014 - bid situation

Hill had visited the proposed site in Italy and met the TD Vitali. The venue is excellent but the player transportation looks complicated, as the accommodation options are not close. Still, some details are missing, but now the updated bid looks much better than the initial one. Hill was also looking forward to receiving a bid from Seattle, but it hadn't arrived yet. Hammerly mentioned that it is not yet clear if the Seattle bid will be endorsed by USAU. Gisel mentioned that the Northwest (USA/Canada) would strongly support the bid.

#### WUCC 2014 – proposal (nothing)

#### PAUCC, AOUCC 2013

No solicitation for bids has been sent out. It should be sent within the next 2 weeks. Morooka mentioned that Japan is interested in hosting the PAUC 2013.

### Vision for WUCC Events

Gisel presented suggestions which were collected in the WFDF Forum:

#### Primary goals for WUCC:

- Participation from as many WFDF member countries in as many divisions as possible.
- Crown Top team in the World for each Division.
- Allow Tier 1 (TBD) WFDF members chance to win all medals in each division.

#### Secondary goals for WUCC:

- Provide vehicle to promote top level Ultimate to event community, sponsors, government, and media.
- Generate income for WFDF to pursue goals
- Provide goal for top Club teams from to form, develop and improve.

### **WFDF Governance**

Congress plans

2nd WUGC weekend

Scott asked if Board members get costs to attend Congress subsidized

Rauch clarified that Congress attendance is only paid for ExComm members

Rauch proposed to have a face to face Board meeting in late October/early November 2012

Since the meeting was running late and the remaining topics did not ask for activities, Rauch proposed to close the meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

Proposed date: May 19 at 2000 UTC

### **Closing**

The meeting closes at UTC 23:18.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary