

## **Saturday, October 26, 2013**

Conference Call at Saturday October 26, 2013; UK, POR- 22:30; GER, RSA- 23:30; USA NY, VA, MI – 17:30; USA CO, AZ – 15:30; USA CA, CAN BC - 14:30; Japan – 06:30 (27 October); Taiwan – 05:30 (27 October)

### **Board members present:**

Robert “Nob” Rauch, Thomas Griesbaum, Si Hill, Kate Bergeron, Fumio Morooka, Michael Hu, Patrick van der Valk.

Also attending: Volker Bernardi, Executive Director (non-voting), Ryan Purcell (Athletes’ Committee, non-voting).

### **Board members absent or excused:**

Sandie Hammerly, Jack Cooksey, Ryan Scott, Kevin Givens, Brian Gisel

### **Call to order (time: 23:40 CEST)**

The quorum was reached with 7 members being present.

### **Report by the President**

President Rauch welcomed all Board members and thanked them for joining the conference call.

### **Decisions between meetings**

None.

### **Minutes of meeting of September 8, 2013**

Hill has asked for revision of a comment attributed to him. Rauch proposed the approval of the minutes with the inclusion of Hill’s proposed change, seconded by Hill, accepted unanimously.

### **Decisions requiring votes of the Board**

#### **Event Coordinator - discussion**

Rauch informed the Board that 27 applications for the position of Event Coordinator were received although one applicant subsequently withdrew their application. For the remaining 26, a ranking list was provided by Bernardi in the board briefing book. One important criterion was Sponsorship experience.

A Selection Committee will be constituted to review complete applications. The plan is to send a questionnaire to the most qualified candidates and narrow down the pool of candidates after this second step to a smaller group of 204 candidates. This final group

would be interviewed in about a month's time by telephone and a final recommendation to the board would be made. The Selection Committee will consist of the President, the Executive Director, Hill and Gisel. This plan was approved unanimously by the Board.

### **Development Grants Program (Vote)**

Rauch informed the Board that he had further discussions with Major League Ultimate (MLU) about working together on the development grants program but this will not work out as given that MLU has certain objectives that will be difficult to reconcile with WFDF's. Rauch proposed that WFDF go forward with its own international development program on a standalone basis, seconded by Hill, and approved unanimously.

Rauch will see that the WFDF Development program and funding possibilities are to be announced on Facebook and Twitter as soon as finalized.

### **Anti-Doping 2014 program (Discussion)**

Rauch advised that the final Anti-Doping budget for 2014 is still incomplete as the Italian Anti-Doping authority still needs to specify its costs. Bernardi added that WFDF managed to arrive at an agreement with WADA that we can again have out of competition testing on the occasion of our main events like WUCC as it was conducted during the last years. Si applauds Bernardi for his success. Hill made a motion to approve the 2014 Anti-Doping program plan, seconded by Bergeron. The plan was accepted unanimously. Separately, Rauch is going to sign the license contract for the Anti-Doping program "Real Winner" which is included to the Board briefing book.

### **Appointment Ultimate Rules Sub-Committee chair - Florian Pfender (Vote)**

Rueben Berg has stepped down as WFDF Rules Sub-Committee chair and Florian Pfender has agreed to apply to serve through the end of the term. WE have received a letter of endorsement from the German Federation (DFV). As Berg wants to step down asap, the appointment will come into force on the next business day after the decision. Berg will remain on the Task Force on Onfield Governance. It was not discussed yet whether the new Rules Sub-Committee chair would be on the Task Force, too. This will be discussed with the Task Force members. Hill made a motion to approve the appointment, seconded by Griesbaum. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

### **Election policy 7.1 - 2013 - addition of Freestyle chair to rotation B (Vote)**

Rauch indicated that this is a mere technical revision as the Freestyle Chair needs to be added to rotation (B), see page 42. Hill made a motion to approve the revision, seconded by Griesbaum. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

Bernardi mentioned that for all positions there are candidates except for the Events Sub-Committee chair. Rauch asked Hill and Gisel on suitable candidates. Hill recommended asking some people who applied for the Event Coordinator.

### **Reports and Updates**

## **WFDF Governance**

### **WFDF 2013 elections – information**

Bernardi has included a report on the candidates in the briefing book.

### **Pan American Association**

Rauch mentioned that WFDF is in the process of setting up a Pan American Flying Disc Federation similar to AFDF or EFDF/EUF as a continental association as this would help to concentrate on regional matters. A draft of Bylaws was sent to the respective members in Pan America. It was mentioned that this seems like it is being pushed by WFDF and not so much by the Members in the region. WFDF's perspective is that this structure fits in with the IOC template and, while Canada and the USA are fine by themselves, other Member countries could benefit from more cooperation. Bernardi added that when speaking with Central and South American members they were in support of PAFDF, and Rauch confirmed that both Ultimate Canada and USA Ultimate are supportive and willing to be involved, so we discount that concern.

### **Report from Meeting Entourage Commission**

The minutes are supplied in the briefing book. Bernardi highlighted the discussions around the experience made at this year's WFDF events and World Games.

### **Report form Athletes' Commission**

Rauch informed the Board about the proposal sent in by the Athletes' Commission to form a Global Ultimate Players Panel (GUPP). Purcell added that the Commission has discussed how to do a better job within the commission next year. They believe that the feedback mechanisms from events like the event participant survey do not provide consistent information stream. The idea is to establish a panel of players which meets a few times per year to work on ideas in more detail. It was discussed whether one would send out a list of questions to about 75 players representing the organized countries. Van der Valk asked why there should be a limit to such a small group of 75 as with today's technologies you could reach many more. There are concerns raised that this overlaps with structures which we already have, such as the Ultimate committee. Bernardi asked whether the panel would really meet on conference calls or just send in written comments, and whether it would be just a Sub-Committee of the Athletes' Commission. Purcell confirmed that the group is much too large for conference calls and this would be more an online panel. It was discussed how participants would be selected, through the national member in that country or just asking persons who seem suitable. Purcell responded that this was not thought through yet. Van der Valk mentioned that based on his experience there would likely only be a handful of people who would be active, from 75 perhaps only 5 or 6, skewing the feedback. He agreed on the need to make players better heard. Rauch stated that he had started working on a global athletes' questionnaire that should satisfy the data need. This survey would be done on SurveyMonkey and sent out via Facebook and its some 17,000 likes and Twitter.

Rauch also proposed that for the next WUCC in Lecco it would be good if the Athletes` Commission would sponsor an Athletes forum on one night to get feedback in person, e.g. by asking Captains to show up. Getting direct feedback from elite players of the world would be good. There will also be a voting process for the Athletes` Commission during the 2014 WUCC.

Purcell added that if there was this panel WUCC could be a chance to meet in person. He thanked the Board for their feedback and said he would pass it on to Athletes` Commission at their next meeting. Rauch thanked Purcell for his work.

## **Board Participation**

Rauch presented the list of Board Meeting attendance over the last two years and expressed concern over one member's lack of participation. Rauch thanked all Board members who had been more diligent for their commitment.

## **Events**

### **PAUCC 2013: update**

Bernardi referred to his written report in the briefing book and informed that teams from 5 countries will participate. The Technical Delegate for WFDF is David Raflo. He also noted that the PAFDF shall be founded in a meeting at the event.

### **WUCC/WJUC 2014 Status Report**

Bernardi reported that he has ongoing meetings with Max Vitali on the event. Hill thanked Bernardi for doing a great job in working with Max. Hill supported having face-to-face meetings with TOC. EUF are hoping to have EYUC at same location as WJUC. Rauch added that WFDF signed an addendum with Vitali on hosting both events, WUCC and WJUC, to address specific concerns previously raised by the board and pointed to the signed documents in the briefing book.

### **World Games 2017 – application to IWGA**

Rauch presented the IWGA questionnaire on TWG 2017 which will be held in Wroclaw, Poland and added that IWGA asked what changes we would like to introduce. One additional athlete spot for Ultimate would be very helpful. Bernardi mentioned that the IWGA membership has increased. WFDF is currently the only sport which is played in main stadium, although this will likely change with the new member of IWGA, Lacrosse. We have a good standing with IWGA, but IWGA is watching us closely. The Entourage Commission also discussed the number of athletes (currently 78).

It was discussed whether WFDF would think about having a new discipline on the program. Is it feasible to have Disc Golf back in? How many Disc Golfers are in Poland (via PDGA)? Regarding a permanent disc golf course in Wroclaw, it seems that the nearest course is about 180 km away from the city. Alternatively, if we are very limited in asking for incremental numbers, we might want to just ask for one more athlete per

Ultimate team. Hill mentioned it is quite certain that all teams would even be willing to pay for an extra player.

Purcell asked whether IWGA knows that TWG Ultimate event is different from other WFDF events, and whether we should ask for separate Open and Women's divisions. Rauch responded that this would require way too many players, and that in any case Mixed was seen as very interesting by IWGA. Bernardi suggested that he could approach IWGA and ask what our options are, which was agreed by all.

Hill proposed to invest resources to assure that the Polish team will be as competitive as possible at TWG 2017. Poland will get a special bid at WUCC, but we might need to think about other ways to support Poland over the next couple years.

Separately, on the World Beach Games, there is an ongoing discussion within SportAccord with regard to the host and program. We continue to press for participation on the inaugural program. We have also reaffirmed our interest in having disc golf included in the Target Games, Guts in the Combat Games, and Freestyle included in the Urban Games.

## **Development**

### **Report from Meeting of the Sport for All / Development Commission**

Bernardi reported on the two hour meeting of the Commission in which the participants described the situations in their respective countries. There is surely no lack of good ideas being very specific for the various regions and countries. It was a very productive meeting of this Commission.

## **Other Disciplines**

### **Freestyle**

Rauch reported on the discussions in FPA. There might be a WFDF Freestyle World Championship in 2015 along with the WOC. The FPA World Championships will be in Karlsruhe, Germany in 2015.

### **Guts**

None.

### **Overall**

Rauch informed that Cooksey has asked to be replaced as chair due to work commitments and that he is trying to find a replacement.

### **Disc Golf**

Rauch mentioned that until 2006/2007 PDGA had been a charter member of WFDF. A Memorandum of Understanding was negotiated at that time to try to get PDGA to

become more active within WFDF but it was ultimately rejected by PDGA board. Recent talks for a new MOU are taking place. WFDF is trying to incorporate PDGA similar to the way like FPA is in WFDF. There are three important aspects: competition, governance (PDGA Committee, WFDF Committee) and membership. PDGA should be a full member, but alternative arrangements could be negotiated. Stork is mediating the discussions with head of PDGA.

## **Other**

Rauch informed the Board that WFDF had been approached to take a role in unifying Indoor Ultimate rules, which all agreed would make sense.

Morooka informed the board about the Guts tournament in Chinese Taipei next month. Hu added that there would be 3 teams from Japan and 4 from Chinese Taipei.

Bernardi asked why Chinese Taipei did not respond to the bid allocation for WUCC. Hu mentioned that indeed Chinese Taipei might not send teams.

## **Finance**

### **Financial statements and membership dues status**

Rauch referred to the financial documents sent by Hammerly. WFDF revenues are US\$ 27,000 ahead of the 2013 budget. The expenses have just surpassed the full year budget so the expense budget will be exceeded, as well. However, the biggest reason for this is the video streaming at The World Games which WFDF paid for in advance and hasn't received the proceeds of the crowd funding effort yet.

## **Next Meeting**

Proposed date: 23/24 November 2013

## **Closing**

The meeting closed at 1:10 CEST.

Submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary