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WFDF 2016 Elections Results Announced

The World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) today has announced the results of its 2016 elections. The WFDF Member Associations voted on open positions on the Board of Directors and on the Ultimate Committee to serve from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018.

“We are pleased to see the high caliber of our elected board be maintained in this latest election,” stated WFDF President Robert “Nob” Rauch. “I am honored to receive the support of our Members and to receive their trust to serve another two year term as WFDF’s President. I am also excited that we managed to increase the number of women on the Board to four out of fourteen, reflecting more closely the gender mix of our elite athletes globally. As does every International Sports Federation, we depend on the support of volunteers taking on roles and functions within our organization on various levels. I would like to use this opportunity to express gratitude for our team of volunteers for all their contributions, and to thank our staff for their ongoing efforts.”

The following candidates were elected for the respective positions after running unopposed:



President: Robert “Nob” Rauch (USA), Executive Committee position

Robert “Nob” Rauch was an active Ultimate player from 1976 to 1994 and has been involved in positions of leadership in disc sports since 1987. He was the National Director/Executive Director of the Ultimate Players Association (the UPA, now USA Ultimate or USAU) from 1988 to 1990, was chairman of the UPA’s Executive Committee in 1991-1992, and is currently a member of the USAU Investment Committee and Hall of Fame Committee. He has also served as president of the World Flying Disc Federation from 1992 to 1994 and from 2011 to the present and as Chair of its Ultimate Committee from 1988 to 1992. As an athlete playing on Ultimate teams in Chicago, Boston, and New York, he won six US National Championships and five World Championships, and he was elected to the Ultimate Hall of Fame in 2006. He also was a contributing writer for the book “Ultimate: The First Four Decades” published in December 2005. Rauch has a 36 year career in finance and is currently a partner and portfolio manager of Gramercy Financial Group, a US\$ 6 billion investment firm specializing in corporate and sovereign debt investments in global emerging markets. He received his bachelor’s degree in political economy from Williams College and master’s degree in finance and international business from the Kellogg School of Northwestern University. He is married to former Ultimate player Katie Shields Rauch and has three children.



Disc Golf Chair: Charlie Mead (GBR)

Charlie Mead has rich experience as a player, administrator, and tournament organizer of all disc sports since 1980. He has held World Overall titles, and European and British Titles in Disc Golf in Open, Master, Grand Master and Senior Grand Master Divisions, and he was awarded the Steady Ed Headrick Trophy for representing and developing Disc Golf in 2013. Still active, for 2016 he was elected Captain of the GB Team for the European Disc Golf Championships in Oulu, Finland. He was also a member of the Great Britain National Ultimate Team from 1982-1991 in the Open and Masters’ Divisions. Charlie was the first UK Flying Disc President (1981), first European Flying Disc Federation President (1982), first WFDF President (1985- 1989), Chair of the WFDF Ultimate Committee and Board member (1994-2002), and he is currently International Coordinator for the British Disc Golf Association (BDGA). Charlie was the Tournament Director for the WFDF Overall Championships in Colchester in 1989, the TD for WFDF World Ultimate Championships in 1986, 1994, 1995, and 1999, and Technical TD for WFDF’s events in 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, and 2002. Outside of his disc career, Charlie is currently an independent consultant providing localized community-based psychological support to children in need. He received a BA (Hons) from Keele University, and M. Ed degrees in both Child Psychology and Educational Psychology from Birmingham University. Charlie lives with partner Maggi on their farm in Devon, UK.



Beach Ultimate Committee Chair: Karen Cabrera (PHI)

Karen has played Beach Ultimate since 2004 and has been a member of the Beach Ultimate Committee since 2007. She has organized local and international tournaments and run development clinics. Karen has managed and played for the Boracay Dragons Ultimate team since 2005, participating in three World Championships of Beach Ultimate. Since 2013, she has been a board member for the Philippine Flying Disc Association. Karen lives on the island of Boracay in the Philippines.



Overall Committee Chair: Tomas Burvall (SWE)

Tomas won the title as WFDF Overall World Champion in the 2013 WFDF World Overall Championships in Norrköping, Sweden, amassing five gold medals by also winning the title in the discipline of Discathlon and in several masters' division events. As a multi-disciplinary athlete, he also won a silver medal in Guts in 1996 and junior division gold in 1990. He has won eight gold medals in the Masters division since 2009 and was decorated with his first gold medal in Overall in 2007 in Ithaca, NY (USA) and in Self Caught Flight 1997 in Helsinki. Tomas also was the winner of 35 Overall medals in Sweden, 15 of which have been golds. He is currently working as the head of the integration in Ovanåkers

county and also as a psychosynthesis therapist.



Guts Committee Chair: Steve Taylor (USA)

Steve has been the President of USA Guts since 2007. As an athlete, he has played Guts since 1981 and his team won the 2010 US National Championship. He was a member of Team USA at WUGC 2004 and WUGC 2008 and participated in the All Japan Guts Tournament in Tokyo in 2007 and 2009. Steve is the owner and partner of LUX Interactive, which provides web based software solutions to a variety of clients, including concentrations in airlines, not-for-profit organizations and e-commerce clients.



Director at large: Fumio "Moro" Morooka (JPN)

Moro is a sports education professional who has been a Board Member of WFDF continuously since 1992. He has also currently served as President of Japan Flying Disc Association since 2009 and is on the Executive Committee of the International World Games Association. He was Tournament Director of the WFDF WUGC in 1992 and TOC President in 2012 of the World Ultimate and Guts Championships held in Japan. In addition to disc sports, Moro has been a Board Member of the Japan Olympic Academy (JOA) from 2007-Present and Executive Director of the Japan World Games Association (JWGA) from 2001 to the

present. He previously served as Executive Director of the World Games 2001 Akita Organizing Committee and was a Council Member of SportAccord from 2009 -2011. Moro is Professor of Department of Health and Physical Education at Sophia University in Tokyo, where he has served as its chair, and has authored numerous books and papers in the field of sports and recreation.

Returning Members of the Board



Secretary: Thomas Griesbaum (GER), Executive Committee position

Thomas has been involved with disc sports since 1981, beginning with freestyle, disc golf and field events and later with Ultimate. He served as a WFDF board member from 2001-2006 and rejoined as Secretary in 2011. He has been President of the European Flying Disc Federation since 1990 and was a co-founder of Deutscher Frisbeesport-Verband for which he served as President from 1989-2000. He organized the first Ultimate exhibition in the World Games in 1989 and served as WFDF's technical delegate at the 2005 World Games. Thomas is currently a staff member of the Faculty of Informatics at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.



Treasurer: Kate Bergeron (USA), Executive Committee position

Kate rejoined the Board as WFDF Treasurer in 2014, having held this position previously from 2008 through the end of 2012. She served as a WFDF board member since 2007 and has held numerous functions at the Ultimate Players Association (now USA Ultimate) including serving as its President from 2002 to 2004. Kate has worked as a coach for several Women’s Ultimate teams and recently won the Silver medal at 2014 World Ultimate Club Championships in the Women’s Masters division with Godiva. Kate is a Senior Director, Macintosh Product Design, Apple Inc. at Cupertino, CA and has experience as a Product Development Executive for many years.



Chair, Ultimate Committee: Brian Gisel (CAN)

Brian has been a WFDF board member since 2009 and previously from 2002-2007, serving as the Ultimate Committee Chair from 2004-2007. He was tournament director of the 2008 World Ultimate and Guts Championships and the 1997 World Ultimate Club Championships and has run several Canadian National Championships. He was the Vancouver Ultimate League Board President from 2009-2012 and has also served on the Ultimate Canada board. Brian is currently the General Manager of BC Ultimate.



Chair, Freestyle: Kevin “Skippy Jammer” Givens (USA)

Skippy has over 35 years of experience in managing and playing freestyle. He has been the Tournament Director for the Freestyle Players Association World Championship four times, the Tournament Director of the WFDF Overall World Championships twice, and has won 14 major freestyle titles as a competitor. He was also the WFDF Executive Director from 2008-2010. Skippy recently retired from his position as the Intramural and Sports Club Supervisor (Competitive Sports Director) for the University of California, Santa Cruz.



Medical Director: Jamie Nuwer (USA)

Jamie has served as the Medical Anti-Doping Committee Chairwoman of WFDF since 2011 and as the Medical Committee Chairwoman for USA Ultimate since 2010. She has been the coach for the UCLA and Stanford Women’s Ultimate Frisbee teams since 2003 and was coach of the USA U20 and U23 junior national teams in 2012-2013. She has done research on college Ultimate injuries and developed the Sports Medicine Section of the USA Ultimate Coaching Manual for Coaching. She is currently a physician at the Menlo Medical Clinic in California.



Director at large: Michael Hu (TPE)

Michael is the General Secretary of the Chinese Taipei Flying Disc Association (CTFDA) He has been a WFDF board member since 2009. He is the former Secretary General of the Asia Flying Disc Federation (AFDF). Michael is an active player and coach of all of the major disc disciplines including Ultimate, disc golf, and overall events.



Director at large: Caroline Malone (QAT)

Caroline is currently the President of the Ultimate Players Association of Qatar (UPAQ), a position to which she was elected in 2015 after having served as an experienced UPAQ Director. As a Director of Development she is promoting disc sports in the region and with players across Asia and Africa. Caroline “Caz” Malone is an international Frisbee player for Open, Mixed and Women’s teams across three continents. She works as a Producer and reporter for international news broadcasters with 12 years of global experience.



Athletes Commission Chair: Ryan Purcell (RSA)
 Ryan Purcell (RSA) Ryan was elected as chair to the Athletes' Commission in 2012. As an athlete, he began his career at the University of Michigan and has competed in both the USA Ultimate College and Club Championships on multiple occasions as well as the 2010 WFDF World Club Championships in Prague and the 2012 WFDF World Ultimate and Guts Championships in Sakai, Japan. Ryan has coached club teams in Australia, South Africa and the United States, as well as led youth programs in each country. He currently is a Senior Manager for supply chain technology provider LLamasoft, Inc.

Election Result Details

The 2016 Election was conducted on-line via a voting form using the Single Transferable Vote methodology. There were 52 regular members in good standing with a total of 128 votes.

To meet the requisite majorities, a total of 65 votes were required for election with no less than 27 member associations voting.

Over the course of the voting period which extended from November 15 to December 15, 2016, 45 members with a total of 118 votes cast their ballots. Although candidates for each office were uncontested, all candidates have received the quorum needed for passage.

The following votes were tallied per each candidate:

WFDF Board of Directors Members:

President:	Robert "Nob" Rauch (USA)	106 yes, 12 abstentions
Beach Ultimate Chair:	Karen Cabrera (PHI)	107 yes, 11 abstentions
Disc Golf Chair:	Charlie Mead (GBR)	97 yes, 21 abstentions
Guts Chair:	Steve Taylor (USA)	88 yes, 30 abstentions
Overall Chair:	Thomas Burvall (SWE)	84 yes, 34 abstentions
At-large member:	Fumio Morooka (JPN)	106 yes, 12 abstentions

Ultimate Committee Members:

Deputy Chair:	Will Deaver (USA)	107 yes, 11 abstentions
Rules Subcommittee chair:	Rueben Berg (AUS)	107 yes, 11 abstentions

About WFDF:

The World Flying Disc Federation ("WFDF") serves as the international governing body of all flying disc (frisbee) sports. WFDF is made up of the National Associations ("Members") that govern their respective disc sports, and there are currently Members representing athletes in over 69 countries. WFDF is an International Federation recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), an ARISF member and a member of SportAccord and the International World Games Association. WFDF is recognized as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) registered corporation in the State of Colorado, USA, and it is a signatory of the World Anti-Doping Agency code.

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