

WFDF 2015 Annual Congress - MINUTES
London, UK, July 11, 2015, 9:00am - 2:30pm
Beales Hotel Hatfield

1 Call to order

President Rauch welcomed the Congress participants at 09:07 hrs and opened a round of introductions.

WFDF Board of Directors members attending:

Robert “Nob” Rauch, Kate Bergeron, Thomas Griesbaum, Brian Gisel, Patrick van der Valk, Tomas Burvall, Michael Hu, Fumio Morooka.

Also attending:

Volker Bernardi (WFDF Executive Director), Karina Woldt (WFDF Event Manager)

Guests attending:

Adriana Withers (VC Ultimate), Rob McLeod, Ted Simmons (10 Million Discs), Jörn Verleger (Chair WFDF Anti-Doping Panel), André Kruse (EFDF Vice-President)

2 Roll call of National Associations present & confirmation of votes allotted

List of Delegates representing national member associations - 48 votes present at the outset, 51 after the arrival of PHI:

Australia (5):	Simon Wood, Anson Chun
Canada (5):	Christiane Marceau
Chinese Taipei (2):	Michael Hu
Colombia (4):	Julio Duque
France (5):	Amandine Constant
Germany (5):	Jörg Benner
Great Britain (5):	Simon Hill
India (1):	Jaidip Patel, Amberish Jaipuria
Japan (5):	Fumio Moroka, Yuta Saito
Philippines (3):	Pinggoy Bautista, Jude Lee
Portugal (1):	Patrick van der Valk
South Africa (2):	Jonathan Aronson, Sally Crompton
Sweden (3):	Peter Lundmark
USA (5):	Tom Crawford

3 2014 Congress Minutes (already approved)

Rauch informed the Congress that the minutes of the 2014 Congress were previously approved and there were no questions about the minutes.

4 Decisions taken by Congress between 2014 and 2015 Congresses

Rauch reported about the decisions taken between the 2014 and 2015 Congresses referencing the document in the briefing book.

Online Votes taken by members between Congress Meeting 2014 (Lecco, Italy) and Congress Meeting 2015 (London, United Kingdom):

2014:

WFDF 2014 Election Results

The QUORUM for votes outside of meeting has been achieved: "No fewer than 50% of Voting members". Total members in good standing: 51, 26 members voting required for passage.

Total voting: 50 members. # Votes required for passage: Simple majority (50% + 1) of votes available to be cast. Total votes available: 132. Votes required for passage: 67.

Over the course of the voting period which extended from November 12 to December 12, 2014, 51 members with a total of 128 votes cast their ballots.

WFDF Board of Directors Members:

Robert "Nob" Rauch (USA), President (127 yes, 1 abstain)

Steve Taylor (USA), Guts Committee chair (113 yes, 15 abstain)

Tomas Burvall (SWE), Overall Committee chair (109 yes, 19 abstain)

Michael Downes (USA) Disc Golf Committee chair (106 yes, 22 abstain)

Patrick van der Valk (POR), Beach Ultimate Committee chair (124 yes, 4 abstain)

Prof. Fumio Morooka (JPN), At-Large member (127 yes, 1 abstain)

Ultimate Committee Members:

Will Deaver (USA), Ultimate Committee Deputy chair (123 yes, 5 abstain)

Florian Pfender (GER), Ultimate Rules Subcommittee chair (115 yes, 13 abstain)

Simon Hill (GBR), Ultimate Championships Subcommittee chair (127 yes, 1 abstain)

Proposals to the Congress - 2014-2 and 3: Approval of UAE and DR Congo regular memberships

The WFDF Board of Directors recommended that the United Arabian Ultimate (UAU) and Fédération Congolaise de Disc Volant (FCDV) be approved by Congress as a regular National Members of WFDF.

Result UAE: The proposal was accepted.

Approve	107 out of 129 available votes
No	0
Abstain	4

Result DR Congo: The proposal was accepted.

Approve	111 out of 129 available votes
No	0
Abstain	0

Needs 66 in favor votes and 26 members voting to pass.

Total voting: 41 members. 8 October 2014

Proposals 2014.4 and 5 - Expulsion of FDFI (India) and approval of UPAI (India) membership

The WFDF Board of Directors recommends that the FDFI membership be terminated and the UPAI membership be accepted.

Result FDFI: The proposal was accepted.

Approve	93 out of 129 available votes
No	0
Abstain	3

Result UPAI: The proposal was accepted.

Approve	94 out of 129 available votes
No	0
Abstain	2

Needs 86 in favor votes and 26 members voting to pass.

Total voting: 32 members. 8 October 2014

Proposals 2014.6 and 7 - Approval of 2014 Congress Minutes and WFDF Anti-Doping rules 2015

The WFDF Board of Directors recommends that the 2014 WFDF Congress Minutes and WFDF 2015 Anti-Doping rules be approved by Congress.

Result Minutes: The proposal was accepted.

Approve	93 out of 129 available votes
No	0
Abstain	9

Result rules: The proposal was accepted.

Approve	97 out of 129 available votes
No	0
Abstain	9

Needs 66 in favor votes and 26 members voting to pass.

Total voting: 36 members. 12 November 2014

2015:

Proposals to the Congress - 2015-1 and 2: Approval of Qatar and Kenya memberships

The WFDF Board of Directors recommended that the Qatar Flying Disc Association (QFDA) and Kenya Flying Disc Federation (KFDF) be approved by Congress as a provisional National Members of WFDF.

Result: The proposals were accepted.

Approve	126 out of 132 available votes
No	0
Abstain	4

Needs 67 in favor votes and 27 members voting to pass.

Total voting: 50 members. 31 March 2015

5 Report by the President

President Rauch reported that since the 2014 Congress in Lecco WFDF has been active on many fronts. The event section of WFDF was restructured with many areas of event organization now being dealt with in-house, learning from the experience of the 2014 events. WFDF managed to improve its situation within the Olympic Movement, having sent in applications for recognition by the IPC and FISU and working on IMGA membership. The updates to the application for permanent IOC recognition were submitted to the IOC and the decision on the permanent recognition by the IOC will be taken at the 128th IOC Session in Kuala Lumpur on 2 August 2015. There was recently a clash between SportAccord and the IOC which severely weakened SportAccord as an organization and WFDF will see what will be the outcome of this discussion later this year.

A very successful Beach Ultimate World Championships was held in Dubai in March together with BULA. The players had a great experience and WFDF certainly would go back to that spot again. The next major events are the upcoming WU23 in London and the WOC in Sweden. In September WFDF will have the first Continental Championships in Africa at Seven Hills in Kampala, Uganda, followed by the Continental Championships in Hong Kong and Mexico. It is very good to see activity in Eastern Africa. On the event side at WU23 WFDF started to use Ultimate Central in order to standardize the registration system. This will help TDs as once players are registered they will not have to register over and over again. This is part of our initiative to streamline our events' logistics and take burdens off TDs.

On the development side, WFDF has increased its membership and strengthened grass roots on all continents, and greatly expanding development support where possible through the new development grants program. WFDF will stage Coaches Clinics (funded in part with funds from the IOC) at the Continental Championships, following the 2014 clinic which was held in Poland to support them for the preparations of a team for the 2017 World Games (since Poland as host nation will obtain an automatic spot if participating at WUGC 2016). The decision process on the allocation of the development grants program for 2015 will be finalized soon. WFDF continues to look for volunteers in all areas to spread the administrative burden to more people. Currently WFDF has 1.5 paid staff (Bernardi as Executive Director and Woldt as part-time Event Manager) and is looking to expand the Event Manager position to full time.

6 Report by the Executive Director

Bernardi referenced page 27 of the briefing book (the update as submitted to the IOC) which summarizes very well what was achieved by WFDF in the last year. He thanked all member association representatives for their contributions and support when working on these during the last years. The number of member associations continues to grow. WFDF had several structural changes after the 2014 events in Lecco and is playing a more active role in many aspects of its event organization now. In addition to the first All African Championships it was 2015 was the first time that WFDF sanctioned the Continental European event in Copenhagen, Denmark. On the Continental Associations, Bernardi reported that the EFDF President Griesbaum and Vice-President Kruse still are working to finalize their structure. Bernardi reminded the members that while electronic votes are open for 30 days, they should feel free to vote as early as possible in order to speed up procedures. On the development grant side, a record breaking number of 21 applications were received this year but unfortunately there is a limited budget supported by IOC and ARISF. WFDF tries to support as many grant requests as possible so WFDF cannot support all requests fully. He added that the full IOC recognition also would better allow us to work on the opportunity to apply for a status as additional sport for the Olympic program according to the IOC Olympic Agenda 2020.

7 Review of 2015 Member Census

Rauch commented on the member census, which is an annual survey which has been done for 15 years now providing a profile of our member associations. He thanked everybody for the time and effort it takes to fill out. There are currently approximately 160,000 players registered with our member associations, which shows an increase compared to the 145,000 members reported in the 2014 census and 120,000 in the 2013 census. The gender split is 32% female and 68% male and Rauch would like to see more women and girls playing. Regarding the age WFDF can state that all numbers continue to grow. WFDF expects juniors numbers to go up quickly with many programs to get discs into schools. About 1/6 is junior and 1/6 is 35 and older. He recommended that all members look through the numbers and see how other members are doing. Key for every member association is to have a working revenue model including sanctioning fees or membership dues. Paid staff helps a lot to develop such revenue streams.

8 IOC Recognition - Overview and Update

Rauch referenced the updated report to the IOC and informed the Congress that WFDF has no reason not to expect a favorable response from the IOC Session on full recognition at the end of July or beginning of August. The Olympic Agenda 2020 promoted by IOC President Bach and supported by the IOC membership has changed the model for the sports program of the Olympic Summer Games and opened up new opportunities establishing an event based system rather than a system focusing on sports. This also gives the hosts a chance to select extra sport events. WFDF applied for the additional events for Tokyo 2020 but that attempt was unsuccessful. The IOC is providing some financial support to WFDF with annual funding of US\$ 25,000 and WFDF also receives US\$6,000 from ARISF. WFDF has received great feedback from the IOC Sports Department on our update report and will have a representative from the Sports Department visiting our WU23 event next week in London.

(The delegates from the Philippines arrived here, increasing the total number of votes to 51).

Rauch reported about the latest development concerning SportAccord. It appears that its scope will be sharply reduced in the future to a focus on organizing the SportAccord convention and Anti-Doping support for IFs.

For WFDF the events are the largest task, and therefore WFDF has hired an Event Manager a year ago. WFDF also sees that with an increase of events it is tougher for athletes to attend. Hill added that participation in Multi Sport Games may provide some interesting opportunities but also result in problems in different areas.

Rauch concluded that the IOC recognition gives WFDF much higher credibility besides the resources which WFDF receives. WFDF bought into the model which is proposed by the IOC and they have a certain structure to which WFDF had to adapt, such as establishing an Athletes Commission. In the end however, these structures most likely will turn out to be good for WFDF.

The IOC recognition could be of big help for WFDF`s developing members on all levels, too, including the recognition on a national level by National Olympic Committees. On Wood`s question whether this will help the National member associations becoming recognized as well Rauch responded that this depends strongly on the country as WFDF does not know if this will lead to a shift in the ANOC stance of keeping this separate.

On the 2024 potential candidates for the Olympics Rauch reported that currently Boston (USA), Hamburg (GER), Rome (ITA), Paris (FRA) and Budapest (HUN) have announced bids. WFDF has strong national member associations in each country and WFDF wants to make sure that it will be well prepared to apply for a place in the program with any of these hosts.

Morooka reported that for 2020 there are more than 30 recognized IFs with summer sports and 22 applied. He expects the Tokyo Organizing Committee to propose 3 or 4 candidate sports and events to be added to the program and the IOC will make the final decision. For Tokyo it will be important how many spectators an event can attract, the TV coverage in Japan and around the globe and the chance for Japan to win medals.

Benner mentioned that many members have not yet realized the impact of getting national recognition, it will take bigger efforts and WFDF needs determination to do it. There was a discussion on the benefits a national association might see from the recognition. Opportunities are moving Headquarters closer to the sports centers of the country or getting financial support or getting better applications when hiring staff.

9 Review of 2014 Community Survey

Rauch reported that the feedback obtained in the surveys shows which problems exist regarding event organization. Basics are a good quality fields, transportation, accommodations and food, all other things are “nice to have”. WFDF has a funding model with fixed amounts at WFDF Ultimate events including a sanctioning fee of US\$ 30 per player for a week-long event comprising the main part of the WFDF revenue. WFDF has a profit sharing clause only if there is profit made at the event. The player fees cover the actual expenses of running the event and WFDF wants to give TDs incentives.

*** Special Presentation ***

At this point of the Congress, Adriana Withers arrived and gave her presentation on VC Ultimate and the business relation with WFDF as official merchandise supplier and sponsor.

10 Discussion Topic 1: IOC Recognition - Sport and NGB Governance

Rauch reported that WFDF followed international standards and structures when it was founded in 1985, establishing an umbrella governing body for all Flying Disc sports. This could be compared to the structure in Ski sports where there is a set of disciplines such as downhill, GS, snowboard halfpipe, etc. organized under FIS. WFDF has disc sports organizational members which is untypical (USGPA, PDGA, FPA, BULA) which falls outside of the Olympic model but WFDF caters for the historical structure in its bylaws.

Looking at the future and trying to obtain national recognition for WFDF`s member associations, one must state that the NOCs would expect to see a similar umbrella organization which would include all Flying Disc sports. Many recent WFDF members have been structured as Ultimate-only groups. That does not constitute a problem today but WFDF needs to start thinking about broadening the scope in these countries to bring all flying disc sports together under the same association. That can be a challenge in those countries with strong single sports organizations. What could be the right transition? Or example, Rauch has spoken with USAU and PDGA about joining under some sort of confederation. They need to set up one organization for the NOC while keeping their autonomy, transitioning over the course of a five-year plan. Wood mentioned that AFDA is 99% Ultimate and has Ultimate Australia as organization under the umbrella AFDA. This could serve as a model for other countries.

Rauch mentioned that Baseball being a male sport merged with Softball (mostly women) under WBSC to fulfill requirements of the IOC and realize gender equality. Crawford confirmed that USOC stated that they recognized USAU as flying disc (and not just Ultimate). Hill had the same discussion with British Sports governing body; UKU explained the reality of their focus and they seemed to be happy with them being so upfront. UKU have applied for recognition with the Sports Councils as UK Ultimate only. They understand there are other disc sports, and that WFDF is organised as flying disc sports. UKU have made it clear that for the time being the level of participation for other disc sports is very low and that it would be disingenuous to suggest otherwise. It is understood that when other disc sports are more prevalent in the UK, UKU would enter into discussions to review the situation.

Rauch explained that next summer WFDF will hold the first Team Disc Golf World Championships with PDGA. PDGA is learning more about international sports structures. WFDF can still improve in international marketing of the sport and that is the mutual goal.

In the 70s players would do all sports and only in the last three decades has there been the strong move to a specialization. Players should recognize the benefits of viewing disc sports as a family. For example, throwing distance teaches you to pull better in Ultimate. Rob McLeod was here in London to introduce aspects of doing more than one flying disc sport.

Benner added that professional organizations like PDGA do not necessarily fit into the Olympic sport system. In Germany they started a coaching program. They found out that all flying disc disciplines share many things in common, such as SOTG.

Rauch underlined that the Overall Committee is working to resurrect proficiency tests from IFA in the 1970s. This encourages disc activities in various sports and can introduce younger (and older) people into taking up flying disc activities. He confirmed that PDGA needs to make more of a commitment so WFDF knows more about what PDGA is exactly doing. WFDF in late 1980s was largely Overall focused, in 1990 there was the idea that UPA should run Ultimate worldwide. But a decision was made to co-opt WFDF and Ultimate players committed to volunteer and work within the WFDF structure. Having made that commitment, WFDF finds it curious that today some people now complain that WFDF “is just Ultimate.” WFDF is committed to representing all disciplines, but needs enthusiasts from all the disciplines to contribute to making that happen.

Crawford mentioned that USAU is part of an “American Development Model,” teaching kids how to play and develop good disc skills (motor skills and emotionally). USAU will be hosting a conference in late August about getting kids getting into sports.

11 Ultimate Committee Discussion Topics

a) SOTG Task Force final report and recommendations

Gisel reported about the Game Advisor program which was introduced last year in Lecco and which was well received and successful. Unfortunately WFDF had too few Game Advisors and they had a limited responsibility. In the last 12 months WFDF worked on an expansion. Greg Connelly is the head Game Advisor who did training sessions in Europe for WU23. In London for WU23 WFDF has 12 Game Advisors, 3 worked in Lecco plus 1 USAU certified Observer. Most of the others come from UK and Ireland. A good game coverage is possible with 3 times more Game Advisors than in Lecco 2014.

The major difference this year is the second part of the recommendations: the Game Advisors can come in on foul calls and offer advice (e.g. what is the rule? If asked, they

give their perspective, but do not have a binding ruling). They will be wearing yellow shirts with the wording "Game Advisor" on their back. WFDF will use two of them for a game. They will introduce themselves to the teams, find out possible language barriers and identify persons who can help. The Game Advisors will also be introduced at the Captains meeting. The Head Game Advisor is also part of the Tournament Rule Group (TRG). WFDF revised the "Conduct Policy" giving Game Advisors the ability to make a decision to remove a player from a game. Extremely egregious (e.g. physical violence) situations that might result in expulsion are subject to review of the TRG.

b) General Update

Gisel reported that after a slow start for WU23 with regard to registrations of players and teams WFDF has a good attendance now. More and more countries are becoming WFDF members and WFDF will keep an eye on possible future qualification systems for World Championships events. WUGC 2016 will be held at the same venue but be near double the size.

There was a question on whether there would be a way for WFDF to have Game Advisors programs for a local level. Gisel explained that WFDF will be looking at ways to give Game Advisor training information to WFDF members. And WFDF might consider sending Game Advisors to Continental Championships as WFDF is willing to consider spreading Game Advisors to other events. The length of Game Advisor training is usually two days. It is conducted preferably during a tournament to get practical training. There are no plans to do such training currently for AOUC in Hong Kong.

In London only some selected games, all showcase games, all finals and likely semi-finals at WU23 will have Game Advisors. WFDF should have more at WUGC next year but again not for all games.

c) Upcoming WFDF events: 2015 - WU23 - AOUC, PAUC, AAUCC

Hill gave a report on WU23 and all looks fine as TOC has a good venue. The UCL University owns the grounds and it is also used as training place for the Watford Football Club which led to some complications during the preparations. Two fields must not be touched as these are the showcase Football pitches.

Hill reported that the WU23 event will be covered live by Skyd featuring three games per day including all games on the main field.

On the Visa question Bernardi reminded the members to take early action as WFDF generally is not in a good position to help and this is even worse when any issues are communicated to us late. The representative from Colombia reported that they were not allowed to apply for Visa earlier than two months before the event and then it took the authorities three weeks to reply.

Gisel reported that the 2015 Pan American Ultimate Championships in Cancun, Mexico, will be held in November 2015 with a record participation of 52 teams. Chile is recorded as latest new WFDF member from South America. The first All Africa Continental championships will be held in September 2015 in Kampala, Uganda and the Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championships in November in Hong Kong.

d) WUGC 2016 - Report

Hill reminded the members that it is important that most teams get things done earlier and WUGC 2016 will be even a month earlier. The TOC is working hard and there are many

volunteers. The seating capacity at the venue is sold out but next year for WUGC 2016 there will be a big stadium with 5,000 seats for the Finals.

TOC expects some 80 teams for 2016. For WU23 other events like EUC in Copenhagen have taken away some teams but this is not likely for WUGC 2016 which will be held at the same venue with the same accommodations.

Woldt added that the registration info will be sent in August and WFDF will have tight deadlines for registration. Hill asked for feedback to improve for next year. He explained that in the United Kingdom the approach to Visa is difficult and asked all countries to apply for their Visas quite early.

e) WJUC 2016 - Presentation

Gisel reported that the WJUC 2016 will be held in Wroclaw, Poland, on a date in July or August 2016.

f) World Games 2017 - Presentation

Gisel reported about the Ultimate event at the 2017 IWGA World Games which will be held in Wroclaw, Poland, in July. With regard to the qualification process at WUGC 2016, teams qualify by gaining points for a ranking including the results from the Open, Women`s and Mixed divisions with a new system featuring the Mixed results as the tie breaker.

g) Beach Ultimate - General Update

Van der Valk reported about a good partnership between BULA and WFDF. More and more national federations are having national Beach championships. The next world cadence will change to 2017, 2021 and perhaps there could be an interest in Asian Beach championships by 2017. They aim to do online conferences open to all federations on how to organize, get money, once a month at beachultimate.org with a fee of ER 35 for the conference. On Wood`s question whether there are any special Beach-only players, van der Valk responded that there are possibly only a few in Portugal.

h) WCBU 2015 - Presentation

Van der Valk reported that WCBU 2015 in Dubai, UAE, was a huge success. But the last days of the preparations were some nerve wrecking due to the missing license for the JBR Jumeirah Beaches venue, and they got the license only 2 days before the event. The event ran smoothly with a very good TOC. Dubai sports TV channel came with six cameras, also used for live stream footage. There were 3 million viewing minutes on YouTube and 1 million page views for live scoring. German major TV ZDF and print magazine L'Equipe reported. The cooperation with Dubai sports TV worked out very well with commentators from the US.

i) Spirit of the Game - General Update

Van der Valk reported that the SOTG Sub-Committee is solidifying several things. There was a Spirit conference at Lecco 2014 and they released the taped SOTG talks on YouTube in May 2015. They improved the SOTG scoring system. A summary can be found on the WFDF web site under "about-sotg." The SOTG Sub-Committee is a truly international group and they are looking for Spirit Directors within WFDF members. 15 countries have one already, still 20 replies are missing. They are trying to introduce Spirit Highlights in Videos (similar to game highlights). Simmons added that mentioning SOTG and the self-refereeing and conflict resolution opens doors in countries when promoting Ultimate. Van der Valk

reported that they are trying to reduce any impact of AUDL and MLU promoting referees and in the future SOTG should be highlighted as a key part of all flying disc sports.

j) Other variations: Indoor, Wheelchair

Bernardi reported about flying disc sports for the disabled and mentioned that one can count on expertise from other sports and IWAS / IPC. Specific rules are needed and these must be not just the usual rules slightly adapted for the disabled. The CEO of IWAS will attend the finals of WU23. WFDF is still looking for people to join the WFDF committee for the disabled, especially with experience with wheelchair sports. Simmons mentioned that he could recommend someone. Mcleod asked about other disc sports. Rauch responded that he spoke with PDGA on the matter but the rules need to be specifically tailored to needs of disabled. Bernardi added that PDGA hasn't found someone to join the Committee yet.

On Indoor Ultimate Rauch explained that WFDF would want to have the launch of the first WFDF Indoor Ultimate World Championships in 2017 and for that the Indoor working group would need to harmonize rules as there are three or four different versions in use now.

At this point of the Congress Gisel reported about issues at the present WU23 Worlds: attendance at the Captains meeting attendance and uniform requirements. The expectation is that every team has a representative at the Captains meeting. The attendance will be recorded and the respective member associations not attending will be informed. Not attending the meeting at the WUGC 2016 will bring repercussions to members and fines. On uniform requirements Gisel mentioned that WFDF has clear rules for the size and color of numbers on the uniforms and incorrect gear will be fined at WUGC too. WFDF need player statistics and without correct numbering on uniforms this is impossible. Our members are advised to contact VC if there are questions as they know the WFDF requirements exactly.

Gisel added that the event logos are owned by TOC and WFDF but for playing gear the event logo may be used in a reasonable size like the WFDF logo. But this is not including any other gear, stuff or merchandise items. Sponsor logos on team uniforms are allowed as long as the number is not hidden and there is no tobacco / or hard spirit alcohol advertising. Rauch added that this is a rule only for this event as WFDF might make a policy for global sponsorship which might impose some new rules.

Crawford added that usually Broadcast partners don't like different hats, bandanas and socks. USAU is providing hats for players at Broadcast games and such requests will be coming with more Broadcasting. Gisel announced debriefing the members after WU23.

k) Splitting off Masters Division

Gisel reported to the Congress that WFDF's Ultimate Committee is considering breaking off the Masters divisions at 2018's WUCC event to reduce the size of WUCC. Also at a unique event one can focus on tailoring services to Masters like housing or social events. On the topic of adding a Grandmasters division at WUGC 2016 he said that WFDF would give a prerequisite, but maybe this is too short notice even if a critical mass of countries (i.e. 8) were interested. If there were an interest by 8-10 Grandmasters teams for WUGC 2016 one could talk about it. Benner responded that the inquiry has been out already and already 6 teams committed. Gisel underlined that WFDF does not always get a satisfactory number of more than one bid, so if people are unhappy with our host choices it is sometimes due to this. Crawford confirmed that USAU made the split a while ago and they see rising participation. The format is different and the parties become popular. They might have great Grandmasters at their Beach event.

Wood asked whether the event cycle can't be announced earlier identifying Worlds two years ahead and continental events one year ahead. Gisel responded that WFDF is getting there. It was almost worked out with the WJUC 2016, but the bidding process got complicated. Hill asked that the bidders be allowed to see the event contract before they bid. Woldt responded that this is the case and one might need to point them better to the contract.

Wood asked about a regional diversity policy. Gisel confirmed that when it comes down to bids WFDF was trying to get WJUC 2016 out of Europe, but there were not good enough bids. Wood mentioned having U19/WUGC and U19/WUCC events close together would help organizing travels (as usually the Junior Coaches come from the Senior players). Jaipuria added that continental events put a load on players who want to also attend Worlds.

Benner asked when a decision about the Grandmasters division at WUGC 2016 would be made. Hill responded that TOC would have to find more fields to accommodate it and most probably it would be a separate venue.

I) IMGA 2021 Kansai World Masters Games

Morooka presented the IMGA World Masters Games which will be held in the Kansai area in 2021. As IMGA is an important part of the Olympic movement he recommended WFDF to join IMGA. He would push to have an Ultimate event in the city of Nara. The OC expects more than 50,000 participants at these Games. The event would be run by JFDA and they would work with WFDF to decide on the teams to participate. Rauch commented that WFDF has started the application for IMGA membership already. The Games would last 15 days and WFDF could decide how long it wants to run the event.

12 Disc Sports Other Than Ultimate

Rob McLeod introduced himself with a video and talked about the different ways you can play with a disc. Getting people into all Frisbee sports is important. There are more discs than just Ultimate discs (or disc golf). Knowing why to throw a disc certain ways is important. We should try to get people to play Frisbee, not only Ultimate and Disc Golf. He will teach players during the WU23 week to understand how they can throw better and farther.

a) Updates and upcoming WFDF events

b) Disc Golf

Woldt reported about the bids for the first Team Disc Golf World Championships, one coming from Vancouver, BC, Canada. Under the MoU with PDGA we are trying to get a co-branded event and hope for 12 national teams playing on 4 days, 6 players per team (nation), 18 hole round, 4 open, 1 women, 1 masters. Rauch encouraged the members to choose teams. WFDF will announce as soon as the event is awarded. The time frame would be end of July 2016

c) Freestyle/Overall/Field Events/Guts

There was a brief update on recent developments in each

13 Annual Risk Assessment

Rauch presented the annual risk assessment outlining a few small adjustments from the past years. We focus more on sustaining or improving the quality and consistency in the

delivery of all our events as Lecco was a good example for what can go wrong. Ensuring safety for participants, coaches, officials, spectators and volunteers is key as you can see from the problems with the wall at WUCC in Prague. WFDF's ability to recruit/attract sufficient volunteers is an ongoing problem.

Maintaining and increasing membership and participation: Olympic involvement has helped us to increase our membership. Sustaining and improving financial viability: 4 year cycle for WFDF, we rely mainly on event income. Protecting or improving public image and reputation with stakeholders, regulators, potential sponsors, and media: Protect spectators. Maintaining Spirit of the Game (SOTG) as an essential component of flying disc sports is important as AUDL and MLU are not using our idea of self-refereeing and are diluting this as a key element of our sport. Applying good corporate governance principles including compliance with regulatory requirements: We publish minutes and try to be as transparent as possible.

A motion was made to adopt the 2015 Annual Risk Assessment by Wood, seconded by Jonathan. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Rauch asked that members also do their own risk assessment. Crawford confirmed that growing also makes risks bigger. Wood agreed and mentioned that AFDA uses forms for parents agreeing to publish pictures of minors on websites.

14 WFDF Anti-Doping Program & WADA Compliance

Bernardi reported about the new WADA World Anti-Doping Code 2015. WADA has increased sanctions from 2 to 4 years for cheating and focuses now on more intelligent testing. A risk assessment is trying to find out how likely in a sport there is a danger of doping. WFDF is a low risk sport as far as WADA is concerned, and has never had any positive tests so far.

For the first time we will need to do blood testing in 2015 as some new substances can only be detected with blood tests. WADA has confirmed that our rules are in line with the new Code. He thanked the bigger members for sending athletes to the Testing Pool. In the area of education we use the Real Winner educational program. The athletes had to do that test for WU23 this year. Rauch added that this is a well-structured online education.

15 Financial Report

a) Presentation of year end 2014 and interim 2015 reports

Bergeron presented the financial reports giving explanations to the year end 2014 and interim 2015 documents. The membership figures are increasing and WFDF hopes to get in the IOC and ARISF funding soon. WFDF is in good shape overall. Bergeron underlined that, with turning the Event Manager to full time and increases in development efforts, WFDF will drain cash reserves in several years without new revenues.

Crawford asked whether there is a budget existing for Olympic marketing. Rauch confirmed that WFDF projected around US\$ 10,000.

Rauch informed the Congress that WFDF is considering raising the upper limit of the dues as a cap for membership, so larger associations would have to pay double. WFDF does not want to put more strain on the smaller member associations. This would help to get the Event Manager full time as WFDF doesn't see that it can increase the event sanctioning fee. WFDF also wants to develop more sponsorship opportunities. Crawford confirmed that USAU fully supports a dues increase as described. Rauch added that WFDF could not talk

with all member associations concerned so far and want to do that before a formal proposal is put out to Congress. Six or seven countries would be affected.

Rauch explained that WFDF tries to mitigate its currency risks, in particular with the Dollar going up towards the Euro, by using the dollar as its functional currency.

b) Vote: Approval of 2016 budget

A motion was made to approve of the 2016 Budget by Wood, seconded by Crawford. The motion was accepted unanimously.

c) Vote: Approval of 2015 Auditor

A motion was made to approve of the new auditor JDS by Wood, seconded by Crawford. The motion was accepted unanimously.

16 Commission Reports

a) Athletes' Commission

Rauch presented the handout submitted to Congress on short notice. The Athlete's Commission was quite active over the last year and plans additional projects in 2015, one being the project of establishing sister teams or associations. Purcell was very active leading the projects and that worked out well for WFDF.

b) Women's commission

There was no written report. Bernardi reported that WFDF has identified a group of 8 - 10 women to get added to our governance structures.

c) Youth Commission

Bernardi reported that the Commission was very active last year as they checked the bids for WJUC and gave advice on many matters. Chair Tapuach plans to have more activities related to the development of the youth section.

17 Discussion Topic 2: IOC Recognition - Olympics Target 2024

Rauch reported that WFDF has the potential to try to position Flying Disc sports in the 2024 Olympic Games through the host city additional events option established under the Agenda 2020. WFDF needs to focus on four areas:

- to reach 75 national member associations by 2017. WFDF counts 62 member associations now and WFDF will help more countries to solidify their structure and enable them to become a member. But still WFDF is looking for solid members.
- to see that the events are run smoothly and are entertaining. Try to address some of the concerns that came out of the World Games 2013 in Cali. Nearly all of the games went smoothly, but self-refereeing did not work well for spectators a couple of times. That is why WFDF came up with Game Advisors and hope to minimize interruptions during games.
- to tackle Broadcast and Sponsorship what WFDF hasn't done enough in the past. To get broadcast coverage WFDF has had some feedback from Eurosport, CBS, ESPN, NBC.
- to approach Sponsorship very professionally. Most of the money WFDF gets from a sponsor will go into producing a show for broadcasting.

WFDF would want to put together a working group for the Olympics 2024 target. WFDF needs to be able to put together a local effort and start a lobbying campaign before the decision on the host is made. WFDF needs to find people in our community with expertise in marketing, broadcast to help find out, how WFDF can proceed by early next year. It is aspirational to target 2024 but Rauch's meetings (together with USAU) with the USOC earlier this year were very supportive and WFDF sees a path to be part of the Olympics. WFDF just needs to take care not giving anyone a reason to not give it a chance.

Crawford added that USAU has set up a task force with well-connected people to pursue the idea of having Flying Disc in the 2024 Games. WFDF will pitch these World Championships to broadcasting companies. WFDF has a lot of work to do. If the Olympics were in the USA, WFDF can promise sold out games and good TV viewership.

Rauch asked that the members help in identifying individuals to participate in the working group which should be up and running later this fall.

18 Discussion Topic 3: Development Projects - WFDF as a Partner

Trent Simmons introduced 10 Million Discs, a world-wide disc sports charity which is trying to bridge gaps with kids by introducing Ultimate to kids. He feels he can reach that with selling points like conflict resolution, gender equality and low costs. It takes time to get into schools. The main question "where do you find resources" could be answered by asking the local member associations.

Constant mentioned School Sport. FFDF was approached by the International School Sports Federations (ISF). They are organizing School World Championships for different sports. They want to organize World Championships for high school players. Their President knows FFDF well and asked if there are countries which could be interested to send teams. They would host an event, and accept help from FFDF.

19 Other Business

Rauch informed the Congress that WFDF has received a letter of complaint from South Africa about the first African championships being held in Uganda, as it is a country with sexual orientation issues. WFDF approved the TOC and they replied that as players should be fine as long as reasonable discretion was used. As East Africa is an Ultimate hotbed, WFDF thought using an existing event would be helpful for an inaugural continental championship. WFDF encounters issues of local legislation with many countries. As an example the Middle East is a tough place from a western perspective but remember that it is hard for WFDF placing judgment. WFDF has made it mandatory that every member association has an explicit non-discriminatory clause in its bylaws.

Development grant projects and program: WFDF in 2014 has supported projects in Hungary, Argentina, Poland, Morocco and also supported applicants with its Discraft Disc Missionary program. WFDF will do the same this year and have already received 21 proposals. Sports for All Commission headed by Brian Gisel will decide which will get support and a principle is that not more than US\$ 1,500 is possible, most likely less in order to support more projects. WFDF looks for sustainable projects. Crawford added that the Congress really appreciates how much progress WFDF has been making.

20 Adjournment

President Rauch thanked all participants and adjourned Congress at 17:03 BST.

submitted by Thomas Griesbaum, WFDF Secretary and Volker Bernardi, Executive Director