

WFDF Newsletter • 30 December 2011

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WORLD FLYING DISC FEDERATION

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Message from the President

Dear WFDF Members and flying disc enthusiasts:

I hope you have been having a great holiday season. Looking back on 2011, we faced a number of challenges coming into the year. The budget had not been approved and our Ultimate Committee chair resigned and needed to be replaced (many thanks to Si for stepping up!). Event bids had not been awarded for either 2011 or 2012, and the bid package was somewhere in the midst of a long-overdue revision. I am sure it has been frustrating that, quite frankly, our event schedule was unreasonably tardy in being announced, but we made it our priority and were able to host some quality events despite the late start. We are still playing catch-up – having just announced the WUGC in Japan and WJUC in Ireland in the last couple months and with U23s imminent – but we commit to get on a proper advance track for events in 2013 and beyond in this coming year.

Earlier this month we completed our two WFDF-sanctioned continental championships. Congratulations go to Sockeye and Fury of the USA for winning in the Open and Womens divisions of the PanAmerican Ultimate Club Championships in Colombia, and to Pre selección and Fury for being selected for the Spirit Awards. Thanks to Mauricio Moore and his staff for hosting a great tournament despite the challenging weather. For the Asian-Oceanic Ultimate Championship in Chinese Taipei, kudos go to Japan for both taking the gold medals and winning the Spirit Awards in both the Open and Mixed divisions of play. We recognize the efforts of Michael Hu and his team for hosting the event.

As feared, it became obvious during the SportAccord meetings in April in London that WFDF was going to have to revamp our anti-doping program and institute a tangible program this year if we intended to continue involvement in the Olympic Movement. Despite having to scramble a bit to design a program that was feasible to implement before year end that would be deemed WADA compliant, we did pull our program together in time to receive approval from WADA for their master compliance report this November. We put proper committees in place to oversee the program, have started an education program, did both out-of-competition and in-competition testing at a sanctioned event, and successfully established a registered testing pool effective for the new year.

Also effective in the new year will be our new web site. It will remain a work in progress for some time but we encourage any

comments or suggestions and we hope to roll out the additional functionalities in our Phase 2 of the project in the first half of 2012. We intend to continue to publish this newsletter to pull together information we hope is of interest and are also looking to see how we can better take advantage of the opportunities offered by the various social media venues.

On the development side, we supported the activities of Ultimate Peace by acting as their fiscal sponsor and by providing a grant to help underwrite their program in Colombia in conjunction with the PAUC. We see this as a three year program to culminate with an event around the World Games in Cali in 2013. We also signed a memorandum of understanding with Peace and Sport earlier in the year.

We welcomed Volker Bernardi of Germany as our first full-time Executive Director last January. Volker brought a wealth of other international sports federation experience, and was instrumental in overseeing the launch of the new web site and the implementation of our anti-doping program. He is gaining experience in working with flying disc sports and we appreciate all his efforts to date. We also thank previous Executive Director Skippy Givens for his assistance in the transition throughout the year.

We finished up the year with 39 Regular Members and 16 Provisional Members, representing 53 countries.

Looking forward to 2012, we are hopeful that the newly restructured Ultimate Committee will help us organize our international Ultimate events more efficiently and ensure that there is better communication. We welcome our new Secretary and board member, Thomas Griesbaum, and thank departing board member Jesus Loreto for all his contributions since 2007. Our goals for 2012 include: better event organization, development of a merchandising policy, outreach to flying disc sports organizations currently not affiliated with WFDF, the growth of disc sports in new countries, and the preparation and submission of our application for IOC recognition.

Thank you for your ongoing support and best wishes to you and yours in the new year!

Robert “Nob” Rauch
President

Picture of the month – Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championships 2011

The following picture shows the participants of the Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championships 2011 in the city of Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei. Picture by AOUC 2011 Organising Committee ©



WFDF Events

Japan Takes Gold in Both Divisions of WFDF Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championships

Japanese teams won both the Open and Mixed divisions of the WFDF 2011 Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championships (AOUC) held in Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei, from 1 to 4 December 2011. In the Open division Japan beat Chinese Taipei in the finals and, in the Mixed division, Japan beat Australia. Japan also won the Spirit of the Game awards in both categories and Japanese players also won both Most Valuable Player awards.

Open Division

1. Japan
2. Chinese Taipei
3. Singapore
4. India

Mixed Division

1. Japan
2. Australia
3. Chinese Taipei
4. Singapore
5. Hong Kong



The finals were held in the World Games Stadium (formerly the National Stadium), the main venue of the World Games in Kaohsiung 2009, where Ultimate was the most successful competition attracting some 50,000 spectators.

Further information and a picture gallery are available from:

http://www.wfdf.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=95&Itemid=125

USA Takes Gold in Both Open and Women's Divisions of WFDF Pan-American Ultimate Championships

The 2011 WFDF Pan American Ultimate Championships were contested in Medellín, Colombia on November 24-26, 2011, after a Parade of Nations, Opening Ceremonies, and showcase game featuring Colombia's Revolution vs Fury of the USA on Wednesday evening. The City of Eternal Spring didn't quite live up to its reputation weather-wise as it has been a very rainy fall. The tournament featured 12 open teams and 8 women's teams representing 7 countries: Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Panama, USA, and Venezuela. Formats were simple for the two divisions (open and women's): pool play leading to quarterfinals/semifinals/finals, but the weather made scheduling a challenge. We went into the tournament with two schedules: a good weather schedule utilizing 6 fields (3 turf), and a poor weather schedule with only 4 fields.



Because of the rain, the decision was made to go with the poor weather schedule and compete on 4 fields. Two rounds in, the organizers were informed that they would only be able to use three fields. Teams had started play at 7:00 AM and would now need to continue on day 1 past 10:00 PM to complete the schedule. Tournament staff, ably led by Mauricio Moore, was more than up to this and every other challenge they would face during the event and, despite the long hours, everyone kept smiling.

It didn't rain constantly throughout the weekend. When not raining, it got hot, but each day would bring heavy rains in the afternoon. On Friday teams completed pool play and quarterfinals, too. Another adjustment was the decision to shorten the placement play for places beyond 5th to one game rather than two for both divisions and to split one field space into two narrower fields to accommodate placement play and allow all of those teams to make it back to the stadium fields to see the championship games. These proved to be excellent decisions given the lightning storms that on the last afternoon of the tournament. Because of the adjustments, the teams had completed placement play and returned to the safety of the stadium and were sheltered from the lightning that came close as the Open third place game was being contested.

Games on Field 1 had been streamed over the internet for the entirety of the tournament. The showcase game and both finals were actually televised live in Colombia. Unfortunately, the lightning delay and the TV schedule forced a hard-cap on the game for the Open third place. The time cap was called at 10-8 and Voladores of Venezuela scored on Kie of Colombia to make it 10-9. Voladores showed a great deal of class in accepting the shortened bronze medal game result.

The Women's Championship game featured the six-time consecutive USA Ultimate champions -- as well as reigning WUGC and WUCC champions -- Fury of San Francisco against Bamboo of Bogota, Colombia. Fury would prevail. On the Open side Seattle Sockeye would make it a sweep for the USA teams as they defeated Warao of Venezuela.

Spirit was high throughout the tournament. Some teams did receive low spirit scores early on, but organizers were pleased to see that their understanding of spirit of the game notably improved as play continued. Leading the way on the Women's side was Fury, adding the Spirit of the Game trophy to their Championship. On the Open side was a late addition team, the Pre-Selection Colombia Mixed team, which demonstrated all weekend why the division is called "Open" and not "Men's."

Despite the weather, the tournament was a complete success. Mauricio Moore and his staff and army of volunteers did a fantastic job. The tournament was supported by AJUC (Colombian Ultimate Players Association), INDER (Medellín Institute of Sports and Recreation), ACUM (Association of Medellín Ultimate Clubs), and Alcaldía de Medellín (Medellín Mayor's Office). Medellín, Colombia was a fantastic host city for PAUC, and everyone looks forward to the 2013 World Games in Cali.

Report by Dave Raflo, WFDF Technical Delegate

Open Division

1. Sockeye - USA
2. Warao - Venezuela
3. Kie - Colombia
4. Voladores - Venezuela
5. Absolut - Colombia
6. Dominó - Dominican Republic
7. EPD Inder - Colombia
8. Alebrijes - México
9. Fenix - México
10. Pre selección Colombia Mixed
11. Truco - Argentina
12. Jumara - Panamá

Spirit Award: Pre selección - Colombia

Women's Division

1. Fury - USA
2. Bamboo - Colombia
3. Revolution - Colombia
4. Mantis - Venezuela
5. EPD Inder - Colombia
6. Mamajuana - Dominican Republic
7. Adelitas - México
8. Jumara - Panamá

Spirit Award: Fury - USA

WFDF Official Communications & News

WFDF 2011 Election Results Announced

The World Flying Disc Federation Nominating and Election Committee (NomComm) is pleased to announce the results of the 2011 elections. The following individuals have been elected for a two year term to serve beginning 1 January 2012:

- Secretary, Member of the Executive Committee and Board: Thomas Griesbaum (GER)
- Treasurer, Member of the Executive Committee and Board: Sandie Hammerly (USA)
- Ultimate Committee Chair and Member of the Board: Simon Hill (GBR)
- Board member at-Large: Kate Bergeron (USA)
- Board member at-Large: Brian Gisel (CAN)
- Board member at-Large: Michael Hu (TPE)

WFDF Members also elected the following to positions on the Ultimate Committee:

- Ultimate Committee Deputy Chair: Will Deaver (USA) (one year term)
- Championships Subcommittee Chair: Brian Gisel (CAN) (one year term)
- Events Subcommittee Chair: Piers Truter (AUS) (two year term)
- Rules Subcommittee Chair: Rueben Berg (AUS) (one year term)
- Spirit of the Games Subcommittee Chair: Patrick Van der Valk (POR) (two year term)

All 37 WFDF members in good standing participated in the election, with a total of 105 votes.

The election, which ran from November 15 to December 15, 2011, was tallied using the "Single Transferable Voting Mechanism."

NomComm Chair and WFDF President Robert "Nob" Rauch stated: "On behalf of WFDF's Nominating and Election Committee, I would like to congratulate all those who won their election and thank all of the candidates who ran for office.

Further, on behalf of all our Member associations, I would like to express my sincere thanks to outgoing board member Jesus Loreto for his considerable contributions to the development of flying disc sports in Latin America since joining the board in 2007."

The 2011 WFDF Nominating & Election Committee was comprised of: Robert "Nob" Rauch (Chair), Volker Bernardi (Administrator), Peter Jesse (1st scrutineer), Danny Saunders (2nd Scrutineer).

Asia Flying Disc Federation (AFDF) established

The foundation meeting of the Asia Flying Disc Federation (AFDF) as the continental association of WFDF for Asia took place on 3 December 2011 in Kaohsiung on the occasion of WFDF Asia Oceanic Ultimate Championship (AOUC) 2011.

Five WFDF members from Asia attended the meeting: Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Japan, and Singapore. The members present unanimously elected Fumio Morooka (JPN) as their President and Michael Hu (TPE) as Secretary General, respectively.

The office of AFDF will be set up in Taichung (Chinese Taipei) in the Chinese Taipei Flying Disc Association (CTFDA) Headquarters.

AFDF is the second continental association for flying disc sports after the European Flying Disc Federation (EFDF)/European Ultimate Federation (EUF). Commented Robert L. "Nob" Rauch, WFDF President, on the foundation of AFDF: "WFDF is proud to monitor and support the growth of flying disc sports in Asia. There are now ten Asian members and the newly founded Asia Flying Disc Federation will help flying disc sports to further develop throughout the region in a coordinated manner under the leadership of experienced federations."

WFDF counts ten regular and provisional members in Asia: Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, Philippines Singapore, and South Korea. Contacts exist in Macau, Qatar, Thailand, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, and Vietnam.

"The first task of AFDF will be to help our contacts throughout the region to upgrade to provisional and regular member status," added Rauch. "Having regional organizations will support our efforts to gain IOC recognition over the next 18 months."



WFDF 2012 World Junior Ultimate Championships (WJUC) host announced

The World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) announced that it has awarded the 2012 World Junior Ultimate Championships (WJUC) to the Tournament Organising Committee (TOC) headed by Dominick Smyth and authorised by the Irish Flying Disc Association (IFDA).

This bi-annual event will be hosted in the city of Dublin, Ireland, 12 – 18 August 2012. Upon the recommendation of the Ultimate Committee, the WFDF Board of Directors approved the bid from the IFDA during their latest meeting. The last WFDF WJUC event had been held in Heilbronn, Germany, in 2010.

Competitions will be held in two divisions: junior open and junior women's at the Dublin City University (DCU). During the event the European U17 Championships is expected to be held at the same venue.

WFDF Anti-Doping Program Update

The WFDF Anti-Doping Program Plan 2011-2013 was approved by Congress at the end of August in Lignano Sabbiadoro along with the WFDF Anti-Doping rules. Since that time, significant progress has been made in all required areas of implementation.

Education

Educational materials were sent to all Member associations and posted on the web site. WADA materials are available in English, French, and Spanish.

Organization

The WFDF Board of Directors approved the composition of the WFDF Medical and Anti-Doping Committee (MADC) and WFDF Doping Control Panel (DCP), which are comprised of:

MADC: Jamie Nuwer, M.D. (USA) as chair
Florian Beiglboeck, Dr. med. (AUT)
Jascha Wiechelt, Dr.med. (GER)

DCP: Volker Bernardi, Ass. Jur. (GER) as chair
Don McKenzie, M.D., Ph.D. (CAN),
Koki Yamashita (JPN)

WADA Code Compliance Status

WFDF informed WADA of our approval of the Anti-Doping rules and Anti-Doping program plan 2011-2013 and received confirmation from WADA that these documents were in line with the code. WADA however underlined that full code compliance could only be reached by implementing the provisions properly.

After the above mentioned Anti-Doping bodies had been installed and WFDF had informed WADA on (a) the plan for

the out-of-competition and in-competition testing at AOUC 2011, (b) the establishment of the Registered Testing Pool by 1 January 2012, and (c) details on the testing plan for 2012, WADA confirmed in a letter dated 14 October 2011 that the WFDF anti-doping program was deemed in compliance with its requirements.

2011 Testing Program

The WFDF testing program was introduced at the AOUC 2011 competition, and involved both out-of-competition tests (prior to the event) and in-competition testing. The tests were conducted by the Chinese Taipei anti-doping authorities on behalf of WFDF. There were three athletes selected from Australia, Japan, Chinese Taipei for out-of-competition testing, and WFDF has provided these athletes with information kits including the official information tools provided by WADA. The information kit included: (a) a copy of the list of prohibited substances and methods (the prohibited list) 2011; (b) three information booklets published by WADA on the general aspects of Doping-control, the process itself and the TUE process; (c) the application form for Therapeutic Use Exemptions; and (d) a letter from the MADC chair Jamie Nuwer informing the athletes of anti-doping issues.

The kit in a modified form also was also distributed to all teams participating at AOUC as their athletes may have been subject to in-competition testing should they have reached the open final in AOUC 2011. One player from Chinese Taipei and Japan was chosen for in-competition testing just after the completion of the finals. Results of the testing were received in mid-December and all tests were negative. As WFDF Executive Director and Chair, Doping Control Panel, Volker Bernardi was on-site at AOUC serving as main contact for providing information on anti-doping issues and overseeing the testing program.

WFDF 2012 Registered testing Pool (RTP) effective as of 1 January 2012

According to the WFDF Anti-Doping Program plan 2011-2013, the RTP from 2012 was chosen based on current world rankings. A member of the top six Open National teams and the top three Womens teams were chosen for the WFDF 2012 Registered Testing Pool (RTP). The following individuals have been accepted for inclusion in the 2012 RTP for WFDF:

Open Division:

Anders Dahlberg (SWE)
Morgan Hibbert (CAN)
Andrew Jackson (AUS)
Masahiro Matsuno (JAP)
David Pichler (GBR)
Joel Schlachet (USA)

Womens Division

Madoka Ito (JAP)
Nancy Sun (USA)
Kate Werry (CAN)

WFDF has gained official access to the ADAMS system (the online whereabouts testing application managed by WADA). The WFDF Executive Director has set up the tool as required by WADA for use by the athletes in our RTP.

Ultimate Peace Hosts Programs in Colombia

The WFDF Pan American Ultimate Championship (PAUC) was held in Medellin, Colombia 24-27 November 2011. In the week prior to the event, November 19-23, 2011, Ultimate Peace, together with the local organizer AJUC, hosted a series of development programs. Ultimate Peace ran a camp in Medellin and worked with the EPD children (sport popular schools), a government program that teaches different sports for free to all children. Ultimate is currently in 15 of these schools and around 800 children benefited with this Ultimate Peace project. Most of the affected children live in neighbourhoods with serious social problems of violence and poverty.



Ultimate Peace also set up a special forum with Ultimate players from Colombia in order to further educate them on the Spirit of the Game, teaching how this tool can be a catalyst for positive change in Colombia. This is the first step in a three year program which will culminate in an event hosted around the 2013 World Games in Cali, Colombia.

The project was supported by a development grant of US\$5,000 from WFDF and a local grant of US\$30,000 from the sports development agency of the city of Medellin, INDER. WFDF had earned approximately US\$5,700 over the previous twelve months serving as the “fiscal sponsor” of Ultimate Peace and so was able to redeploy most of these funds in fulfilling its development goal for the year.



Ultimate Peace coaches Lorian Berman and David Morgenroth led the charge for UP, teaming up with Yuval Zolotushko (an Israeli player and veteran UP coach), Alicia Dantzker (2010 UP coach), and six other players from San Francisco Fury and their coach Matt Tsang, as well as David Raflo from WFDF and USA Ultimate, to run the camps. The first two days of camp involved working with approximately

40 Latin American coaches from Colombia, Argentina, and Mexico.

After a warm UP welcome and listening to and sharing expectations and goals for the training, they introduced the coaches to the five UP principles: mutual respect, integrity, non-violence, friendship, and fun. They varied activities, presenting to the large group and splitting into smaller groups to discuss each principle, share ideas, experiences, and ask questions. For some of the principles, each group created and performed skits to exemplify the idea.

We played spirit games between each academic component, which served to unite the group, as well as give them tangible tools to use with the teams they coach. We shared experiences from UP in the Middle East and the Latin American coaches shared with us the particular challenges youth in their communities face.

Additionally, we taught alternative disc games, drills that can be adapted for all levels, and most importantly built a network of passionate, like-minded people who are dedicated to using Ultimate Frisbee as a tool for social change.



For the next two days of camp they worked with 150 boys and girls (ages 10-16) from villages surrounding the valley of Medellin. They were joined by a handful of local players as well. INDER has a program called Escuelas Populares Deportes (EPD), which includes over 30 different sports programs in the most underserved areas surrounding Medellin. Ultimate is included in the EPD programs where they have 870 kids playing disc.

The youth at the UP camp were from these schools and, having some previous Ultimate experience were antsy to play, but they took very well to the spirit-focused activities that were thrown at them first. With the consistency of having worked with their coaches the previous two days, there was an army of UP reps to trickle down the emphasis on spirit and the UP principles to the kids. They separated the kids into teams, carefully split to have representatives from each school, and generally equal distribution of skill levels.

Teams moved among three stations in which they had discussions about a principle, learned a spirit game, and practiced a drill. Finally there was a large tournament for the kids, wherein after each game teams would rate their opponents on each of the five principles, as well as choose a spirit winner from the other team. A spirit circle with both teams would follow where the teams would announce who they chose as spirit winners and why. The teams with the best spirit scores were chosen to compete in the finals of the tournament (rather than the teams with the best record in pool play).

The energy of Ultimate Peace camp resonated in the auditorium where they finished up. Each team, a mix of kids from all schools, performed their team cheer; we presented many spirit prizes; and everyone watched a slide show from the two days.

The UP coaches performed the Ultimate Peace rap, written and directed by Mario O'Brien.



On Wednesday, the day before the Pan American Ultimate Championship tournament started, participants had a full day with over 200 kids; with 20-30 kids from each of the EPD schools, the UP philosophies were spread farther and wider. They let the kids who were at camp the previous two days educate the others on the five UP principles. Team names, team cheers, spirit games, and of course some healthy competition got everyone excited for concluding spirit awards. Everyone huddled under a roof in the midst of an intense thunder and lightning storm, which allowed for focused presentation of spirit winners, and concluding camp songs.

This has been a project a long time in the making, and both UP and WFDF are very proud it has come to fruition. There is plenty of room to grow, and this program was truly just the

beginning, for Colombia and other potential sites around the world. In 2009 Ultimate Peace coach Loriana Berman went to Medellin, Colombia with her club team, Seattle Riot, to play in the Torneo Eterna Primavera tournament. While there, she shared stories from Ultimate Peace at forums and coaching clinics that were held in conjunction with the tournament. The respect for the Ultimate Peace ideology, and the desire for programming there and in other parts of South America were apparent. The following year, Oscar Taborda, a leader in the Ultimate community in Medellin came on his own to the Middle East to be a part of UP and the seed for collaboration was planted.

The project received significant media attention throughout the week. Loriana presented at a live press conference, did an interview for a TV news station, an interview with a newspaper reporter, and one for a documentary that the Mexican Ultimate players were making.

David and Zolo gave a presentation about Ultimate Peace at a forum of Ultimate coaches from countries throughout Latin America. The enthusiasm for UP and the fundamental belief that Ultimate is a sport that brings people together, teaches crucial life skills, and improves lives are more widespread than ever. The UP coaches came home inspired and energized.

With the success of this program, the local organization led by Mauricio Moore, Ultimate Peace, and WFDF are all looking forward to staging another program in 2013 around the World Games in Cali.

Explanation of the Spirit Of The Game Scoring Sheet

The WFDF Spirit of the Game (SOTG) committee has developed a document listing the objectives of the WFDF/BULA SOTG scoring sheet (available in 27 languages) and how, by following guidelines, players ensure these objectives can be achieved.

The document gives guidance to tournament and league directors on how to ensure good SOTG practices are followed on and off the field. The document is currently available for download in English and Spanish:

http://www.wfdf.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=c_at_view&gid=42&Itemid=20

More languages to follow.



Upcoming events

7-14 July 2012 WFDF World Ultimate and Guts Championships (WUGC), Sakai, Japan

12-18 August 2012 WFDF World Junior Ultimate Championships 2011 (WJUC), Dublin, Ireland

To be listed in this section, your event should be an international event. If you plan to attend any of these events and would like to submit a new story about your experience, please forward all submissions to ed@wfdf.org for insertion in the next available issue.

All submissions are subject to editing prior to publication.

Call for submissions

If you would like to contribute to the WFDF Newsletter, please submit your content to ed@wfdf.org

If you would like your information to be posted in the next issue, email me for specific deadlines.

Not all submitted content is guaranteed to be published. Please note that event reports and other news should have international relevance.

Some suggestions for submissions include: tournament announcements and results from disc sport events with international presence or for national championships, disc sport initiatives that your city or country are undertaking, submissions to a "Featured Photo" section, miscellaneous media sightings involving disc sports, and stories about the development of a particular disc sport in your area.

Imprint

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About WFDF: The World Flying Disc Federation is the international sports federation responsible for world governance of flying disc (Frisbee™) sports, including Ultimate, Guts, and Individual Events. WFDF is a member of SportAccord and the International World Games Association, and it is a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of Colorado, USA.