

WFDF 2018 Annual Congress Minutes

Cincinnati, OH, U.S.A., June 13, 2018, 4.00 pm – 8.00 pm and 14 June, 2018, 8.00 am – 12.00 noon, Cincinnati Marriott Northeast

Saturday, July 14, 2018, 08:00 - 12:00

1 Call to order (time: 16:14)

President Rauch welcomed all participants and thanked the Organising Committee for the organization of the event. He referenced the updated briefing book which was sent to all participants before the Congress meeting.

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

See Annex 1 – list of participants.

3 2017 Congress Minutes (already approved)

The Congress 2017 minutes were provided in the briefing book and were already approved by Congress in December 2017.

4 Decisions taken by Congress between 2017 and 2018 Congresses

The decisions taken by Congress between the 2017 and 2018 Congresses were outlined in the briefing book.

5 Report by the President

Rauch reported about the talks with the IOC which were held during the SportAccord convention 2018 in Bangkok. He welcomed the five new member associations which were accepted since the last Congress and added that Universality is very much important to the IOC. WFDF these days has around 40 member associations on average participating in WFDF events. On the development side, the focus is on Africa, South America and Southeast Asia. The continental championships have grown hopefully due to this development. Development is supported by the IOC funding. The Beach development is allocated out of the collected Beach revenue. WFDF is still working on the 2018 development grants application procedure.

On the governance side WFDF, has been conducting Bylaws discussions since last Congress but there seems to be a consensus now. Five Board members out of 14 are women and WFDF is trying to get better gender equality on the Board, also working with the Athletes' Commission to get their voice into the decision-making process. WFDF has appointed a Sustainability Officer who conducted an assessment after WCBU 2017 which helps to make WFDF's events more environmentally friendly. Also a new transgender policy was developed and approved. We have recently been reviewing the issue of concussion protocols, even though this has not been a big issue in WFDF events. On gender equity and equality, the WFDF Women in Sports Commission was reconstituted with several new members. A gender equality workshop will be held at WUCC 2018 on Sunday and Monday evenings. WFDF provides perfect gender equality at this event, with an equal number of men and women teams. On the event side there was a split of the Masters divisions away from the rest of divisions and WFDF expects to have nearly 3,000 athletes at

WMUCC which proves the interest in the event. Continental Beach Ultimate events were also just added to the event portfolio.

WFDF still is trying to find a way to co-operate with PDGA (Disc Golf) and has introduced Disc Golf national standings which were very well received.

With regard to Multisports events WFDF was recognized by FISU and signed an agreement with ISF (International School Sports Federation) with the inaugural event to be held in 2019 as a World School Sport Championships. Ultimate was included by IMG to the programme of the World Master Games in Japan in 2021. Furthermore, GAISF selected Freestyle Flying Disc as an eligible sport for the GAISF World Urban Games in 2019.

At the IWGA World Games in 2021 in Birmingham, AL (USA) WFDF will have eight instead of six teams. WFDF also will try to get in touch with CIJM and start working on an inclusion in the Mediterranean Games.

Rauch announced that unfortunately it looks like Beach Ultimate will not be included in the initial edition of the ANOC World Beach Games in 2019 as they eliminated all non-Olympic sports with their disciplines, but there are better expectations for consideration in the second edition in 2021 to be staged in a co-operation between ANOC and GAISF. He asked the members to approach their NOCs for national recognition to increase the chances.

In terms of WFDF's Anti-Doping activities, Rauch reported that WFDF is still considered a low-risk sport resulting from the work done by the Administration, the suitable education programme, and the fact that there have been no positive tests to date. WFDF will continue to try to limit the burden on the athletes.

Regarding international cooperation, WFDF was a presenter at the IF Forum presenting a case study with IFA that was commissioned by the IOC on Sustainability. WFDF is also continuing the background work building relations on the Parasport dimension of our sport.

Concluding his report with Broadcast matters, Rauch reported that WMUCC will have a full schedule of streaming and linear TV in US and also feature an agreement with the Olympic Channel who are interested in showing our sport after a successful broadcast at TWG 2017.

6 Report by the Executive Director

Bernardi reported about the increased membership services demands having reached 80 and more member associations now. Passing the 80 member mark was important as 75 member associations are needed as per the Olympic programme requirements. He asked the members to maintain reliable working relations with WFDF when it comes to filing the annual census, paying membership dues and entering athletes for WFDF events.

There are new Commissions within the WFDF portfolio and WFDF is always looking for new additions to Commission membership and increasing quality and input from the members. There is a new WFDF University and School Sport Commission and the Youth in Sport Commission would undergo a revamp soon for which nominations are sought.

Additional workload for the Administration is caused by new topics brought down from international to the IF levels, such as are Sustainability, Integrity and Governance, Athlete protection and safeguarding or the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which caused WFDF to have to appoint a Data Protection Officer (DPO). If WFDF wants to be an active and diligent members of the Olympic Movement these are the requirements to be fulfilled.

Bernardio reiterated that WFDF only can be successful with close co-operation with all members and Continental Associations and concluded his report by thanking all participants for their support.

7 Review of 2018 Member Census

Rauch presented the results of the 2018 member census which are included in the briefing book with lots of additional data. He looked back to the past and underlined that WFDF shows a consistent growth over the last 15 years, growing the membership by 11% annually, increasing from 37 to 80 members over that time, and projecting 85 members by the end of 2018.

8 WFDF Anti-Doping Program & WADA Compliance

Bernardi reported on the WFDF Anti-Doping Program Plan. He stated that WFDF in 2017 had to undergo the WADA Code Compliance Questionnaire procedure. WADA, after more than one year, had submitted the Corrective Action Report (CAR) to which WFDF has to respond with a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). This includes three critical topics which are testing, education and investigation. On the latter, WADA is demanding structures as IFs are being expected to find out who could be cheating, where and when.

The proposed change to the membership related to the demand made by WADA to have a clause in the Statutes that all members are committed to fighting doping and are bound to the WADA code. The second request from WADA was that WFDF involve its members more prominently in Anti-Doping operations. It was stated that in many countries there are already working contacts with the respective National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO). That should be a general rule in the future to be implemented by WFDF. The third request was on making the testing more unpredictable. On education it was reaffirmed that the online-education tool must be used by every participant of WFDF events.

Bernardi concluded his report by stating that the WADA rules are equal for all IFs even though WFDF is a low risk sport. Still WFDF has to do Anti-Doping testing and it will be increased over time with perhaps the National Associations having to do tests in the future.

With the possibility of an inclusion of Beach Ultimate in the World Beach Games and Freestyle in the World Urban Games WFDF also will need to do testing in Beach Ultimate and Freestyle eventually.

At the end of 2018 WFDF will send a survey to its members on Anti-Doping questions to find out whether the members have Anti-Doping rules, do testing and education/investigation. WFDF needs to show to WADA that there is a permanent contact with the membership about Anti-Doping. There will be a need for WFDF to cover Anti-Doping operations in countries where there are no activities.

The Congress supported the WFDF operations and agreed that further measures will be co-ordinated according to the results of the survey.

9 Annual Risk Assessment

Rauch presented the annual risk assessment where WFDF looks for the risks for the organisations and its operations identifying them.

A motion was made to approve of the annual risk assessment by Hill seconded by Crawford. The motion was approved unanimously.

10 IOC Recognition - Overview and Update - WFDF participation in Multi-Sport Games - international governance issues

Bernardi informed the Congress about the latest developments on international level and concluded that WFDF has to keep up the good work to remain in its position. As an example he underlined that GAISF has more than 120 members and more than 100 applications for membership on the table. That made GAISF establish a category of Observers with the organization and eight IFs are already granted that status.

WFDF is working towards an inclusion in the second edition of the ANOC/GAISF World Beach Games in 2021 after being dropped from the 2019 edition in San Diego. The second edition will be co-organised by ANOC and GAISF and that should improve our chances of inclusion.

On the GAISF World Urban Games, Freestyle was accepted as “eligible sport” to be included in the first edition. Date, location and details have not been determined yet.

Ultimate was included into the 2021 World Masters Games in Kansai, Japan.

On the World Games WFDF had good broadcast numbers for 2017 in Wroclaw and there is an expectation to be even better at the TWG 2021 in Birmingham, AL (USA).

WFDF is now recognized by FISU and will develop a University Sport sector henceforth on an international level leading to WFDF World University Championships and the participation in the Games of the Universiade eventually.

Bernardi repeated that WFDF’s desire to be included into as many Multisport Games as possible is complicated by the fact that only a low number of member associations have obtained NOC recognition in their country so far and e.g. continental Games like European Games, Asian Games or PanAmerican Games fall under the NOC domain, where WFDF needs NOC support to be accepted. He asked the Congress participants to get in touch with their NOCs on how to achieve recognition and prepare applications, which was reaffirmed by Rauch. WFDF can help with contacts supporting such ambitions.

Hill expressed his concerns looking at the number of Multisport Games and events talking about calendar congestions wanting to know what is the position on Ultimate only events and what impact on these events would happen through Multisport events.

11 WFDF Bylaws revision Task Force report and process - update

Rauch reported about the Bylaws revision discussions and stated that the pushback last year on the proposals had gotten the dialogue going. He had set up a Task Force of 20 members to propel the discussions on the greatest concern, to have only one member per country. A new draft of the proposed revision was approved by the task force and provided in the briefing book to Congress. WFDF continues to try to sustain a dialogue with PDGA through the WFDF Disc Golf Committee chair and the President.

There was a motion by Switzerland and Belgium that had been submitted on time to (a) add a provision in mandate for WFDF to promote Self Officiating as an essential aspect of Flying Disc and (b) that any rule changes concerning change of Self Officiating could only be done by Congress.

There was also a late proposal provided by Sweden to rename the “Athletes commission” to “Ultimate athletes commission.” Rauch was not supportive but agreed it would make sense to expand the Commission with athletes from other disciplines. He asked for a vote of the new Bylaws text as revised by the Task Force and review the new proposal separately. Rauch also commented that it was disappointing to receive submissions at such late stage since a Swedish representative was a member of the Task Force.

He asked for a vote of the new Bylaws text as revised by the Task Force and review the new proposal separately.

A motion was made to approve of the new Bylaws text by Hill, seconded by Kalpala. The motion was approved with one vote from Sweden against.

Regarding the Swiss/Belgian proposal, Gisel commented that while the first part of the proposal sounded fine, the second part was vague. He was concerned what it meant for the Game Advisor program or if one wanted to change the time between points as an example. Switzerland agreed to work on the wording. Rauch added that the time how long a discussion takes change is a grey area as one cannot be sure whether it really affects the Self-Officiating aspect. There was a concern how to make a wording which is precise enough but wouldn't lead to unintended consequences. Rauch proposed to accept the revision in principle but given that it is complicated, to take the time to discuss the specific language further. He proposed that the issue be reviewed for no longer than two months and have a Congress vote electronically after people had time to review the final language. It was agreed to table the motion and come back to it. Rauch also added that he would want a distinction between SOTG and Self-Officiating. Austria supported to get further feedback as they were not happy with the wording.

The Congress adjourned at 19:55 hrs.

Saturday, July 14, 2018, 08:00 - 12:00

Call to Order 8:13am

See Annex 1 – list of participants now including Brazil, Mexico, Czech Republic and Poland.

12 Financial Report

a) 2018 Dues

b) Vote: Approval of Change of Player Sanctioning Fees for WFDF events

Gisel reported that more and more athletes are attending WFDF events and ever more event related demands on our staff is increasing. WFDF is thinking about hiring an Assistant Event Manager with the increased workload and since there was no longer an off-season. For that reason he was proposing an increase in the player sanctioning fee for events.

Wood questioned whether that increase is enough as he went through this in Australia and they have a per day fee higher than WFDF's week fee. Gisel responded that this was only one part how we were trying to increase the income. WFDF wants to spread out the pain as the overall expenses for players to attend is high. WFDF are also thinking about increasing the membership fees, but he noted that the high level players are profiting most of the services.

Hill supported the increase and asked when this would come into effect. Bergeron commented that dues revenue was flattening out.

There was a motion made to approve of the player sanctioning fee by Simon Farrow, seconded by Hill. The proposal was accepted with three abstentions from France, Venezuela and Germany.

c) Vote: Approval of 2019 budget

Bergeron presented the 2019 budget with the expected income and the dues projections. On the expenses side the support for events is major cost. There would be a deficit in 2019 as it was an odd year with no large events. The projections to 2023 should be good with a projected dues increase not until 2023.

A motion was made to approve of the budget for 2019 by Crawford, seconded by Rebecca Thompson, and it was approved unanimously.

d) Presentation of year end 2017 and interim 2018 reports

Bergeron presented the end of year 2017 and 2018 interim reports.

e) Vote: Approval of 2018 Auditor

A motion to approve of the proposed Auditor, Waugh & Goodman, LLP, was made by Purcell second by Kalpala and was approved unanimously.

Rauch returned to the topic of the Bylaws revision and confirmed that the wording had been refined and the final language will be done during this week to be circulated for roughly 75 days and we should get a vote by Congress. Switzerland and Belgium withdrew their motion and will make a new proposal within the next week and will ask for vote on it within 75 days.

13 Ultimate Committee Discussion Topics

a) General Update

Gisel reported about the additions to the Ultimate Committee in the past year and was happy to confirm that all Ultimate Committee members were there at WUCC for an in-person meeting. There is an expanded gender and geographic representation within the Committee and they will try to increase the size of the Committee.

The WFDF Game Advisor program was conducted in Lecco in 2014 for the first time with 5 GAs at the event doing very few games. This was increased to a real GA task force looking at a GA manual and certifications. WFDF is now trying to get GAs from all over the world. In 2016 at WUGC in London there were 20 GAs (18 male, 2 female). There was a need to focus on gender equality matters and bringing out female GAs. At WUCC 2018 WFDF has 24 GAs (12 male and 12 female) and one is trying to have the same gender ratio for WJUC and WMUCC, trying to be as geographically broad as possible.

For 2019, WFDF announced WU24 will be in Heidelberg, Germany. That will be the largest U24 event ever .

In 2020 there will be a WUGC and WFDF is just finalizing the contract, hoping to announce it during this week. There will also be a WMUC pulling Masters out of the national team event, which gives us chance to include more Masters divisions.

b) Ultimate events 2018: WMUCC, WUCC, WU24 (2017) and WJUC

There are four major events this year, with the 2017 WU24 in beginning of 2018 with were 40 teams from 20 countries in 3 divisions. At WUCC 2018 there are 128 teams from 36 countries in 3 divisions.

At WCBU one has seen that Club events are getting bigger because more teams come so this was why we split Masters out of the Club events. And at WMUCC, 72 teams are expected to compete.

At WUCC in Lecco 2014 there were 156 teams (with 3,800 athletes) and the numbers of WUCC and WMUCC 2018 accumulate to 200 teams. Gisel was worried about 2022 where WUCC could be too big again.

At WJUC there will be 31 teams from 18 countries in 2 divisions and Gisel was happy about the overseas participation given the expense for the juniors.

c) Continental Championships 2019: Africa, Asia/Oceania, PanAmerica, Europe

The All African Championships will be in Johannesburg (South Africa) while PanAmerica is not nailed down yet. There will be an Asian/Oceania event in Shanghai in 2019 and an International School Federation World Championship in Le Mans, France.

d) IWGA World Games Birmingham 2021

In 2021 TWG will be held in Birmingham, AL (USA). The preparations are starting already in 2018. Gisel congratulated Bernardi that we increased participation at TWG from 6 to 8 teams and the number of days to five from three.

e) World University and International School Sport Championships

See under point 10 of the agenda.

f) Masters: World Masters Games Kansai 2021

The Ultimate event of the World Masters Games will be held in Kansai in Japan in 2021 as medal sport in May 2021 as a 5x5 event, which must be confirmed. Bernardi underlined that WMG are a "Sport for All" style event and about participation, not extreme competition.

g) Beach Ultimate - General Update and World Beach Games

The report on Beach Ultimate is included in the briefing book. WFDF is finalizing the Asian Oceanic Beach Ultimate Championships and going through the Beach Ultimate Grant program.

h) Spirit of the Game - General Update

The committee was quite active with a busy dialogue but had not submitted a report of activities. WFDF has requested one and will circulate. Purcell added that there is a SOTG related workshop at WUCC.

i) Other variations: Indoor, Wheelchair

Bernardi reported about WFDF being an IPC recognized IF said he is now working on developing a set of rules and classification regulations as per the IPC classification code defining minimum impairment criteria and other issues. WFDF will ask its members on activities which they carry out.

j) Other

At this stage Rauch introduced the delegation from WUGC 2020 to held in Leeuwarden, Netherlands. The delegation will attend WUCC until Wednesday morning and is open for chats. The delegation gave a short presentation.

Rauch invited Rockwood to deliver the Broadcast and Marketing report. Rockwood reported about the progress in Broadcasting and a few steps on Marketing. 124 games will be broadcast from WUCC with 200 hours of live Ultimate on UltiWorld, Fanseat, the Olympic Channel, WFDF Youtube, Facebook. TV broadcast for Finals will be on the Stadium Channel: Watchstadium.com. This Multicasting approach should receive a greater audience, helping with the reach of a critical mass of at least millions which will help us to reach larger Sponsors. On commentators these are half US and half non-US nationals, half male and half female genders. Fulcrum is helping to broadcast 1080p and stereo. There is a drone coverage and pre and post shows.

On sponsorship marketing, Rockwood underlined that many global brand managers have never heard about Ultimate before. WFDF has had some luck with new endemic sponsors like Ultimate Bags and Universe Point in the last year.

14 Disc Sports other than Ultimate a) General Update

b) Disc Golf

In the absence of chair Mead, Rauch reported about the second largest disc sport. WFDF has revitalized the Committee under chair Charlie Mead, trying to find ways to increase the awareness of the sport. PDGA has developed a new structure with PDGA Europe and is trying to get countries to sign up with them. PDGA has an individual membership approach while WFDF has national members. Mead has met with the new CEO and commented that we need to work together as WFDF is well connected within the international sports world and Olympic Movement. WFDF has introduced WTDGC and set up a World country ranking system.

C) Freestyle

Rauch reported for chair Givens that basically the FPA have their own championships and WFDF has Freestyle in the Overall event. There are about 550 members in FPA. Freestyle is extremely well-suited for the GAISF World Urban Games and Rauch hopes that this will increase interest.

d) Overall/Field Events

Rauch reported that chair Burvall has stepped aside for personal reasons and WFDF needs to reconstitute that Committee.

e) Guts

Rauch reported for Taylor that he is trying to get Guts into more countries and they expect eight nations at WUGC 2020. With the new Bylaws we are hoping to expand these sports.

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15 Discussion Topic: Targeting the 2024 and 2028 Olympic Games

Bernardi reported about the Paris 2024 Olympic Games' additional events procedure. Additional events can be proposed by the Games host city exclusively. Full sport programs have been set for Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028. WFDF can only try to get in the Games through the additional events. For 2020 five sports were included with an additional athletes quota. Paris 2024 has to include the additional events in the quota of 10,500 athletes and will limit their proposals. We are hopeful that FFDF can receive recognition by the French National Olympic Committee (CNOSF) soon. Proposals must have perfect gender equality.

Crawford added that there are also talks with LA 2028 ongoing.

16 Commission Reports

a) Athletes' Commission

Purcell delivered the report outlining that there would be elections to the Commission at WUCC. The voting seat in the Board brings a voice of players to Board and helps board to solve player related issues.

b) Women in Sport Commission

Rauch presented the report and referenced the survey responses. Not many women are active in administration positions. On the WFDF Board we have done a good job to increase numbers of women. There would be a gender equality workshop during WUCC.

It was discussed that with fewer women players, top players are requested to participate in many national teams and that wears them down. We need to be aware of the demands on them always participating in everything.

c) Youth Commission

Bernardi reported that, with the overlap in tasks with topics like events, development and others, the communication within the Committee was not so good. WFDF is looking for new members as one looks to upgrade the level of activity in the Commission.

d) Sport for All/Development Commission

Bernardi reported that the development Grant decisions for 2018 are delayed. It takes time to go through the process. The goal is to leave a footprint in the country in which the projects we fund are undertaken. We are trying to support countries who are not members. We are looking into using an online tool to help making the decisions quicker.

Pad Timmons from Discraft came by and gave a presentation about the company and the portfolio where he outlined that Discraft spends 20% of their gross income on sponsorships.

17 Discussion Topic: Development and Governance of a MNA - case study KOR

KUPA gave a presentation on the development of the association in South Korea.

18 Continental Association Reports

a) Africa - AAFDF

No report was given.

b) Asia/Oceania - AFDF

Morooka reported on AFDF and its development leading to 16 members at this moment. He is trying to get new members as AFDF members. On June 13-16, 2019,

the city of Shirahama will host the Asian Oceanic Ultimate Beach Championships (AOUBC).

c) Europe - EFDF

No report was given.

19 Other Business

Bernardi reminded the Congress on the first World School Sport Championships to be held 2019 in Le Mans, France. The members will receive the first official bulletin this week.

Rauch mentioned the 50 Years of Ultimate exhibition to be visited at the Congress hotel and the 50th anniversary being held in October in San Diego.

20 Adjournment (time: 11:32am)

Rauch thanked the participants for their contribution.

The Congress was adjourned at 11:32am.

Annex 1