MINUTES OF THE WDSF MC MEETING

Budapest (HUN) 5th June 2019

Present:

Shawn Tay (ST) WDSF President
Tony Tilenni (TT) WDSF Vice-President for Finance
James Fraser (JF) WDSF Vice-President for Legal Affairs
Nenad Jeftic (NJ) WDSF General Secretary

Jean-Laurent Bourquin (JLB) WDSF Senior Advisor (Invited)
Guillaume Felli (GF) WDSF General Manager (Invited)
1. **Introduction by the President**

The President welcomed all participants to the meeting which started at 9:00. ST thanked everyone for their presence in Budapest for this 2019 WDSF AGM week.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved unanimously.

3. **Minutes Secretary & Timekeeper**

GF was proposed at the Minute Secretary and Timekeeper for this meeting, which was unanimously approved.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

4.1. Minutes of the Managing Committee Meeting, 14th of June 2019, Lausanne (SUI)

ST asked if there were any comments related to the minutes of the last WDSF Managing Committee Meeting held in Lausanne (SUI) on June 14th, 2018. As there were no comments or questions, ST Moved for the MC to approve these minutes. Unanimously approved.

ST explained that he wished to involve more the full Presidium in daily tasks and ongoing business of the federation and suggested to consider extending the number of Presidium meetings per year to 3 meetings and reducing the number of MC meetings. The idea was discussed, and the MC agreed to bring this proposal to the Presidium on the following day, meaning to hold 3 presidium meetings per year: One (1) around February; one (1) before the AGM in June and one (1) in September or October.

For the next Presidium meeting, the MC agreed to present the dates of September 8th to 10th in Moscow (RUS) after the WDSF World Latin to the Presidium.

5. **Paris 2024 Olympic Games/Breaking**

5.1. Report by the Leader of the Task Force

JLB explained that February 21st, 2019 was probably one of the most important day in the history of the WDSF, when the organizing committee of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games proposed a DanceSport discipline: Breaking for inclusion into the medal programme of the XXXIII Olympiad.

JLB went thru the timeline of the project development since 2014 and the WDSF Presidium’s decision to implement vision 2020 and bring DanceSport to the next level as an Olympic sport, followed by interventions from WDSF NMBs at he 2016 AGM pledging for further development of urban disciplines to the decision of the IOC in December 2016 to include Breaking as part of the medal event programme of the YOG in Buenos Aires 2018. JLB emphasized that the success of Breaking since 2016 will benefit all WDSF disciplines in the long term. He took the example of the massive media resonance that the announcement of Paris 2024’s proposal had all around the world. The value of the exposure that DanceSport, WDSF and Breaking had over the last 4 months is enormous.

JLB explained that Breaking perfectly matches with Paris’ 3 major principles of the Games in 2024:

www.worlddancesport.org  /wdsfdancesporttotal  /dancesporttotal
• Host sustainable and socially responsible Games (in line with Agenda 2020)
• Inspire new audiences, attract youth
• In line with Paris’s identity (spectacular, inspiring, inclusive, urban)

JLB also presented the competition format and the quotas proposed by Paris 2024 for the Breaking events. He commented that the Breaking competitions in a battle format are easy to understand, exciting and engaging for the audience with the participation of the DJ’s and MC’s. ST confirmed that he experienced the Breaking battles during the YOG in Buenos Aires and identified many elements that could be applied to the Standard and Latin for improvement.

5.2. Governance /Relations with the Breaking community / Situation with NMBs

JLB explained that the WDSF is currently “Olympic compliant” at all levels but that given the developments with the Paris 2024 proposal, the WDSF must remain focused and ensure that governance matters are taken very seriously as the monitoring from the IOC is likely to increase over the coming months.

JLB commented that he noticed a lot of positive developments within the WDSF NMBs over the past months regarding Breaking (both for those NMBs who already had breaking competitions since many years, as well as for those who continued developing the discipline), more and more NMBs are making significant progress to reach the Olympic level. ST mentioned that 3 NMBs will present their further development with Breaking at the WDSF Open Forum the following Saturday. Finally, JLB emphasized that WDSF also has a huge opportunity to expand its membership, especially in Africa given that the next Youth Olympic Games will take place in Senegal in 2022 and that DanceSport should have the objective to figure again at the medal program of the YOG.

5.3. Representation of the Breaking community within WDSF Commission

JLB highlighted the importance of including additional representatives of the Breaking community within the various WDSF Commissions and suggested that the Presidium ratifies the proposal of having additional breakers integrating the WDSF Commission during the Presidium meeting the following day. ST agreed with this proposal and mentioned that he had already spoken with Chairs of various commissions who would be more than happy to welcome additional members to contribute on their areas of expertise. It was unanimously agreed that the MC would consult the presidium on this matter.

5.4. Judging System and Panel of WDSF Judges for Breaking

The WDSF has mainly partnered with one company specialized in Breaking judging system software and logistics, the company with whom WDSF partnered for the YOG and the various continental qualifiers and that helped build the Trivium Judging System. However, given the overall high interest in Breaking, various actors of the Breaking community have contacted WDSF to propose other judging system at lower prices. Some of the WDSF NMBs have also proposed their help in releasing judging systems that could be used at much lower prices than what is currently proposed by the partner of WDSF. In order to take into consideration, the various feedbacks, WDSF must look at a sustainable way to move forward and as an international federation, must be able to give access to affordable judging system options to its members. ST agreed that in order to develop the discipline further, it will not be possible for NMBs to spend several thousands of CHF only for the judging system part.
JLB also raised some questions about the future and next steps regarding the training and certification of judges. ST confirmed that these matters are currently being taken care of by the WDSF Academy and the WDSF Sports Commission for Technical/Education.

5.5. Anti-Doping matters

JLB confirmed that Anti-Doping compliance and compliance to the WADA Code are crucial aspects for the WDSF and that careful monitoring should always be exercised. He also suggested that special efforts on education and prevention are put in place as the Breaking discipline is still a young one and that many athletes still need to be made aware of anti-doping matters.

5.6. Communication Toward the Olympic Level

JLB emphasized the importance of communication around the project and towards the various stakeholders of the federation as WDSF is now playing in another league.

JLB finished his presentation by summarizing the next important milestone regarding Breaking from now until 2024.

6. WDSF Structure

6.1. Staff & Vision of the future

JLB explained that the workload of the Lausanne office has seriously increased over the past 10 months with the development happening in the Federation and that his recommendation was for the MC and Presidium to make decision on hiring additional staff to relieve the pressure on the current employees and continue building the WDSF structures to the next level. JLB added other International Federations based in Lausanne with similar operational size of WDSF and with similar ambitions usually have been 12 and 15 full staff working at their headquarters. He also noted that the position of Communication Director and Sports Director have been vacant for quite some time and that the Presidium should urgently take decisions to fill these positions.

GF commented that additional pressure has built up for the office since the departure of the previous employee Géraldine Zahnd, reducing the team from 3 to 2 full time staff. Many tasks had to be absorbed by GF and Cristina Swan which have been challenging to manage on top of all the ongoing workload.

TT suggested to GF that he should consider hiring one extra employee thru the following arrangement: the next intern (hired for a 6-month period) could be offer a permanent position after the completion of his/her internship. The MC agreed with this proposal and GF commented that he was also in favour of this suggestion and that he would look into various options to proceed as such once back in Lausanne.

JLB shared the value in kind proposal of the “Active Well-Being Association” to put together a project plan to include DanceSport as part of the Active Global City Label in return of WDSF allowing the Active Well-Being Association to use one of the three office rooms rented by WDSF at the Maison du Sport International in Lausanne, which is currently not being used by the staff. The MC unanimously agreed to present this proposal to the Presidium for approval.

6.1.1. Status with independent contractors

GF reminded the MC about the importance of having agreements in place with all WDSF independent contractors or consultants, establishing clear job descriptions and/or guidelines and ensuring that all work mandated by WDSF remains property of the federation. He also pointed out the necessity to
establish such working agreements/contract in order to comply with new GDPR regulations and ensure compliance of the WDSF. It was agreed that the MC would look into that matter and bring it up to the Presidium the following day for further discussions.

7. Renewal of the Associate Membership Contract for WRRC

The MC discussed the renewal of the Associate Membership contract of the WRRC and it was agreed that a revised updated contract would be circulated to the WRRC by the end of June 2019 for consideration.

8. Incorporation of the Asian DanceSport Federation (ADSF)

ST informed the MC that further to the decision of the Presidium in November 2018 to call on ADSF’s members to regularize its affairs by incorporating under Singapore Law and to concurrently adopt as part of the incorporation process, a functioning democratic procedure that is real and effective and that is governed by the rule of law, there had been no reaction and no response received from the Presidium of the ADSF. ST explained that a notice of discussion had been issued to all the Asian WDSF member bodies to meet in Budapest the following Friday to discuss the matter.

At 13:00 ST called for a Lunch break of 45 minutes. All participants were back in the room at 13:45.

9. Preparation of the WDSF Presidium Meeting on 6th and 7th of June 2019 in the same order of the (separate) Agenda for this Presidium Meeting

The MC went thru the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting with special attention to the Presidium Motions and Member Motions. The MC agreed on recommendations to be made to the Presidium regarding the Presidium’s position on the various member motions (to support or not to support the motions). Regarding the various reports to the AGM, it was agreed that the delegates should be given the opportunity to vote on each report separately.

10. Elections Ethics Commission and Disciplinary Council

The MC proposed JF to chair the election of the Disciplinary Council during the AGM, to which JF agreed. For the Elections of the Ethics Committee, The President and the Vice-President for Sport, the MC agreed to ask Mr. Erich Stäldi to chair the meeting. JF was tasked to connect with Mr. Stäldi to confirm that would accept to do so. GF would also connect with Mr. Stäldi to confirm all voting procedures and the content of the AGM slides pertaining to the various elections, in accordance with the WDSF Statutes.

11. WDSF DanceSport GrandSlam Series & New Sport series

ST confirmed that the two first legs of the GS Series of 2019 (Bucharest and Taipei City) have been conducted and that the rest of the series for 2019 is looking good, with major events coming up this summer in Rimini, Stuttgart, Moscow in October and the finals in Shanghai.

ST mentioned that although the GS Series has been very successful since its launch, it is now time to look at a revised format which would bring added value to the GS and bring new audiences, making more exciting for the public and attract more couples to participate and this is why ST will be presenting the proposed revised competition formats during the 2019 WDSF Open Forum the following Saturday.
12. Marketing, Sponsoring and Broadcasting

12.1. Renewal Sponsoring Agreement between SWAROVSKI and WDSF

GF informed the MC that the sponsorship agreement for 2019 has finally been signed at the end of May and that the payment of the full sponsorship amount was expected to be paid in the coming weeks.

12.2. Broadcasting agreements updates

GF reminded the MC that that the Agreement with FloSport would expire on July 24th, 2019 and that it was important that the Presidium, under the guidance of the Vice-President of Communication, takes a position regarding the renewal or not of the contract, and under which terms.

12.3. Eurosport Proposal

JLB explained that Eurosport contacted WDSF a couple of months ago to express their interest in DanceSport and a meeting was organized in Lausanne in April with Eurosport, the Lausanne office and Pedro Toro, the WDSF TV and Production Director. Subsequently a collaboration proposal was sent from Eurosport for consideration by WDSF. The MC decided that WDSF should answer Eurosport that, at this point in time, WDSF cannot afford such a project (even if very interesting) and WDSF hopes that both parties will find solutions to collaborate in the near future.

13. 2019 WDSF Annual General Meeting in Budapest

NJ, ST and GF reviewed all arrangements for the upcoming meetings and met separately with the Hilton hotel to ensure all logistical aspects were covered.

The MC members unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 18:00.

Shawn Tay  
WDSF President

Guillaume Felli  
WDSF General Manager & Minutes Secretary