

Statement for Candidacy as WFDF President

I ask for your support for re-election as President of WFDF. When I ran in 2010, I felt that WFDF was at risk of failing to address the needs of its Members and outlined an agenda with five main cornerstones: communication, events, Olympic Movement involvement (and anti-doping), development, and professional management. I believe I have addressed these issues over the last eight years and still have the vision and energy to lead the organization into the 2020s with the required commitment to get disc sports to the next level.

In the coming two years, challenges and opportunities abound. WFDF needs to continue to strive to organize and support our increasingly complex sanctioned events more efficiently. We need to better integrate all Flying Disc sports under the WFDF umbrella with full support at all of our member associations. We need to continue to showcase disc sports in the World Games and introduce other disciplines into global multi-sports events where we can, like we have recently done with getting Freestyle into the inaugural 2019 World Urban Games and hope to do with Beach Ultimate in the 2021 World Beach Games. WFDF needs to enhance its efforts in the commercial arena to increase resources and visibility, in areas of merchandising, media, and sponsorship. And we need to continue to manage the global dialogue on spirit of the game and self-officiation, to ensure that there is a rational perspective regarding pressures for any changes to this core value. We are working to be considered for the host city designation for inclusion in the Olympic Programme in either 2024 or 2028 and have met with the Olympic Organizing Committees for both as recently as within the last month to ensure that we are considered. With the changes in the leadership of the key Olympic Movement organizations in 2014, I believe that disc sports will be the beneficiary of a shift in perspective and a desire to showcase more exciting sports that appeal to youth and espouse gender equity. I want to make sure WFDF, our member associations, our volunteers, and our athletes, are ready.

I ask you to review my CV, where I outline my involvement with disc sports as a player and administrator since the mid-1970s. I have competed at the highest level of disc sports, with a number of World and US Ultimate Championships with several different teams from the 1980s and 1990s, and have held leadership positions in disc sports organizations since 1987. I also provide a bit of information on my professional career, part of a leadership team that grew my investment business from less than US\$50 million of funds under management to over US\$6 billion, which gives me confidence I can achieve what I set out to do. I believe my track record shows that I don't just have ideas, but I achieve tangible results, and have tackled some difficult situations in my time. Finally, as someone intimately involved in disc sports for 42 years, and having traveled to nearly 100 countries in my life, I believe I have the global perspective that WFDF needs in ensuring it makes the right decisions in the face of today's challenges and opportunities in grappling with the Olympic Movement involvement, anti-doping requirements, financial concerns, and the increasingly competitive nature of our incumbent disc sports.

Thank you for your consideration.



Robert "Nob" Rauch