



Uganda Woodball Federation

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President's Remarks to the Extraordinary Congress

Saturday, November 07, 2020

Representative of the National Council of Sports (NCS), UWbF Executive Members, Members of the Congress, Members of the Press, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome you all to first ever Extraordinary Congress quite interestingly organized online.

I am happy that you are still having good health most especially during this period of Covid19.

On March 18, 2020, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda put a ban on all public gatherings including sports in a bid to prevent the spread of Covid 19. Woodball being among the affected sports, we had accomplished 25% of our annual activity calendar events. These included the National Team trials where we had selected Team Uganda for the **9th World Cup Woodball Championship** in Malaysia as our major International event for 2020. However since the resumption of sports, we have engaged government through NCS to harmonize the regulations put in place before we can hold any Woodball event.

During the 12th General Assembly in January, I highlighted about the 3 key prospects of the Executive Committee in the final year of service. These were Consolidating our achievements, Strengthening the governance structures at Club and Commission, and Strengthening partnerships. These have been a reason you see an outline of achievements and all other programs in pipeline towards the development of Woodball.

1. We have brought on board the new State Minister for Sports, Hon. Hamson Dennis Obua, Dr. Donald Rukare the new Chairman of the National Council of Sports and Dr. Patrick Bernard Ogwel (General Secretary National Council of Sports), to the list of prominent names that have added value to this sport.
2. UWbF received another new Woodball Machine to add on the two existing ones to boost equipment production donated by Chinese Embassy. I thank Government through NCS for supporting us in all shipping costs.

3. We are in preparation to have new Memorandum of Understanding with Ndejje University on Woodball Equipment production as a business segment unit of the federation.
4. On the same note, I wish to inform members that we have a separate account for Equipment funds. This will help us manage the production expenses properly.
5. During the lock down, we have had a number of articles in the media and I would like to thank the press for the great work.
6. We shall engage Uganda Secondary Schools Sports Association committee in a meeting to discuss an official partnership. This is another move to supplement ownership of Woodball by government in major education levels, plus talent development.
7. An official upgrade certification from IWbF is being sought to ascertain the franchise for manufacturing and selling of Woodball equipment in Africa.
8. The strategic plan 2020 – 2025 and its 6 pillars is in process and I call for your input as stake holders.
9. We encourage members to keep following our website and social media handles (Facebook and Twitter) for both local and international correspondences

Today, we are meeting to approve an electoral committee that will help us manage the electoral process in next year's general congress.

I urge member clubs to value and conduct themselves in a professional manner when communicating Woodball matters.

I conclude, with an appreciation to all our key partners; Government of Uganda, National Council of Sports, Embassy of China, CPA Uganda, Coral Coatings Ltd, Ndejje University, the Media fraternity and above all, you, the members who have made Woodball become one of the first growing sports in Uganda.

For God and My Country!

Paul Mark Kayongo
UWbF President