FOR THE GOOD OF THE SPORT

Willingness of FRISBEE players throughout the world to sacrifice their freedom to practice FRISBEE in the way of their choosing “for the sake of the sport” has resulted in the formation of the International Frisbee Association. Headquartered in Los Angeles, the IFA will serve as a central communications forum to strengthen the bonds among FRISBEE players everywhere.

IFA Executive Director Robert Werden said considerable soul-searching preceded formation of the international body. “It is regrettable that FRISBEE has attained such worldwide popularity that it is necessary to confine the spirit of freedom which has long marked the FRISBEE player within the strictures of an organization, no matter how well-intentioned,” Werden said.

“However, the clamor by FRISBEE players from many nations to achieve status within the Olympic Games has necessitated the development of a body which would set standards of proficiency, rules and regulations.”

Werden pointed out that during the past score of years FRISBEE has progressed from the scaling of pie tins by small groups to the skillful spinning projection of the aerodynamically-designed plastic disk used by thousands of players today.

The IFA Board of Governors already has established standards of proficiency for the four categories of FRISBEE player — novice, amateur, expert and master — and is reviewing suggestions from enthusiasts throughout the world for the formation of rules and regulations.

“Our these have been compiled into a standardized form for worldwide usage,” he said, “they will be submitted to the IFA membership for ratification.

“We are confident that both the standards of proficiency, rules and regulations will preserve every FRISBEE player’s inalienable right — to move up in the ranks of classification, limited only by his own ability.”

Werden said the IFA Board of Governors is convinced that as soon as the criteria for international competition have been established by the membership, an effective presentation can be made to the International Olympic Committee.

“Meanwhile,” he added, “IFA will bring about lend-lease of FRISBEE techniques and theories among the players of every nation in the Free World.”

Applications for membership are now being processed by the IFA, headquartered at 2900 Rowena Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90039.

WHENCE FRISBEE?

Just who shot the first FRISBEE into the air will probably remain a mystery forever. Some say its pre-history encompasses the athletes of the Olympics of 776 B.C. who eventually traded their crude FRISBEEs in for the discus.

Others claim that FRISBEE did indeed originate in the cradle of civilization but was far from being a game. Instead they reveal that the ingenious Greeks discovered that they could sever their adversaries by scaling their shields, once spear supplies ran out.

In the modern epoch, the well-spring of FRISBEE has been credited to various universities with Princeton, Dartmouth, Yale and Harvard among those most frequently mentioned. Yale claims FRISBEE began there over a century ago. Their historian has produced documentation to prove the sport originated in 1827 by Yaleman Elihu Frisbee who, in protest against compulsory chapel, scaled a collection plate 200 feet across the Yale campus. This noble act began a craze on the Yale scene which lasted until the Great Collection Plate Shortage of 1873. During the following decades, experimentation for a substitute was vigorously carried out with everything from pizza trays to manhole covers being tried.

IFA historians place the beginning of the modern FRISBEE era at approximately 20 years ago, just after World War II, when the clientele of the Frisbee Baking Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut, discovered that the tin plates which held Mother Frisbee’s pies were excellent for scaling. An IFA member in Connecticut disclosed that his investigation showed that the company lost 5,000 plates during the height of the pie-plate-pitching fad.

Thus the venerated name was born. But the final perfection in aerodynamics was attained some 13 years ago by a Mr. Fred Morrison, in San Fernando, California, who, and such quirks of irony dot history’s pages, developed a plastic saucer originally intended to be a children’s toy. How could he have foreseen the benefits his inventiveness would bring to the international sporting world?

Today Mr. Morrison, an honored member of IFA’s Board of Governors, and Wham-O Manufacturing Company, who took his now sacrosanct prototype and made the world FRISBEE conscious, work hand in hand in a never-ending effort to refine and improve the FRISBEE.
STATEMENT OF PURPOSES

Whereas the sport of FRISBEE has progressed during the past two decades from the use of pie tins by a small group of devotees to the skillful spinning projection of aerodynamically-designed plastic disks by thousands of practitioners of FRISBEE throughout the world, now therefore, do we members of the International Frisbee Association set forth and ordain the following as our Statement of Purposes in promulgating the sport of FRISBEE to its ultimate destiny.

1. Consequent to the development of FRISBEE and the refining of individual techniques and forms of competition, there has been an increased demand for communications among the world's FRISBEE players. The IFA will serve as focal point of worldwide FRISBEE communications, linking the FRISBEE players of every continent who have the common bond of enthusiasm, and disseminating news of FRISBEE to all IFA members.

2. As in life's pursuits, the aim to excel should be uppermost in the goals of all IFA members. Self-betterment is to be strongly encouraged among individual IFA members prior to their participation in competitive team play.

3. To help every FRISBEE player to judge his own skill, the IFA will establish standards of proficiency, accomplishment and excellence.

4. Competitive instinct and pride of personal achievement, so vital to the IFA member, shall be encouraged through the individual's ability to direct his own progress, limited only by his own ability to master the various standards of proficiency which mark the FRISBEE player's classification — Novice, Amateur, Expert and Master.

5. Recognizing that individual FRISBEE enthusiasts throughout the world have in many instances developed certain forms of activity, accomplishment and competition, the IFA will, through its membership, set forth rules and regulations covering any and all forms of IFA-sanctioned FRISBEE competition. No other governing body in athletics, including the International Olympic Committee and Amateur Athletic Union, can take precedence over the IFA in the establishment of such rules and regulations.

6. The IFA and each IFA member will at all times strive to establish increased rapport and camaraderie among all IFA members through the exchange of ideas for improvement and participation in the development of rewarding programs for both group and individual participation.
TO FRISBEE IS NOBLE TO EXCEL DIVINE

FRISBEE PLAYERS come in all sizes, shapes and ages. Clockwise, from upper left are: Greta Grandchamp, serving up a sizzling FRISBEE; Clyde Sibling, who has no rivalry; Terry Myers, tiny, two and terrific; and Mrs. Charlie Brown, whose "linus" aren't bad.

I FORUM
A VIEWPOINTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

I think the formation of the International Frisbee Association is a wonderful idea. We are very proud of our International Frisbee Tournament held every year in Eagle Harbor, Michigan. The Director of our tournament, the beloved Harvey J. Kuckuk, has done a magnificent job of creative organization in guiding the tournament through its first ten years. However, Mr. Kuckuk is a philosopher who is interested more in "Frisbee as a Way of Life" than in crowd control.

The IFA could benefit greatly by drawing on Mr. Kuckuk for counsel on the establishment of objectives and policy, and I am sure Mr. Kuckuk would support with great enthusiasm any organization which fosters the growth of his favorite sport.

Robert Healy, Minneapolis, Minn.

Ed Note: Mr. Healy's suggestion has been followed, and Mr. Kuckuk has agreed to serve as advisor emeritus to IFA.

I'd like to briefly discuss the organized FRISBEE activity in Cologne (Germany). To my knowledge I am the sole FRISBEE owner in the entire city, thus, I'm in an excellent position to observe all local FRISBEE activity. I have organized a lunch-time group known as the Kolner Bier und Frisbee Gesellschaft. Our group has a truly international character including seven or eight nationalities.

Dr. Richard C. Potter
Universitat Zu Koln

Very shortly after my introduction to the FRISBEE, I formed the FFF (Frivolous Friends of Frisbee), a somewhat loosely-knit society which I carried with me on my travels. Although this organization never had any formal doctrine, we have gathered under the FRISBEE banner for more than ten years and many close and lasting friendships have grown in the shadow of the FRISBEE and the FFF. Now I am pleased beyond words that a formal and working association, the IFA, has been formed.

J. B. "Jabe" Wills
Flossmoor, Ill.

APPLICATION FOR IFA MEMBERSHIP

I would like to become a member of the International Frisbee® Association. Please send me my official IFA membership card, IFA membership certificate, FRISBEE® manual and proficiency qualification form. I have enclosed a 50¢ membership fee, which qualifies me as a FRISBEE® Novice and which also covers handling and mailing costs.

NAME

(Please Print)

ADDRESS

(Number) Street

(City) State (Zip)

AGE SEX

Which model FRISBEE® do you own?

REGULAR PROFESSIONAL MASTER TOURNAMENT MINI-FRISBEE

The proficiency qualification form will give you the requirements necessary to establish your individual classification under IFA world-wide standards — Amateur, Expert, or Master.
An editorial in the *Wall Street Journal* pointed out the tremendous effect FRISBEE is having on the world in general and the world of finance in particular. Entitled "Frisbees on Wall Street" the article described a game of FRISBEE being carried out by a young lady and her escort, across the street, beside the New York Stock Exchange. It was pointed out that there must be something symbolic about FRISBEE-tossing on Wall Street. "For," the article states, "no matter how high a Frisbee is thrown, it always comes down."  

... Reports from Montclair, Calif., indicate that FRISBEE queen Christie Spear has fully recovered from the bad case of "FRISBEE Finger" which forced her to forego competing in the International Frisbee Championships at Eagle Harbor, Mich. A passing cameraman caught a dramatic photo of the exact instant when Christie was so painfully afflicted.

... The IFA has sent a quantity of FRISBEEs, courtesy of Wham-O Mfg. Co. to Vietnam as part of a joint Navy-Marine operation. The Navy is transporting the FRISBEEs to the Marine units in Vietnam which will use them in working with Vietnamese youngsters and teenagers. During the loading operations, sailors from the ships of Destroyer Squadron 23 took time out for their own game of FRISBEE.

... Sociology Professor Robert Althausen of Princeton University is working on perfecting his boomerang technique and reports that in one instance, working against a strong wind, he succeeded in placing a FRISBEE more than 100 yards behind his initial position.

... Student Russell Johnson of San Francisco reports development of a unique game of water FRISBEE played crosswise in an Olympic-size swimming pool.

... Don Roarty, who claims credit for introducing the FRISBEE to Mexico, where it is called "Disco" says the best playing areas there are the hard-packed beaches, "the ideal place for the ideal game."

... Paul A. Theis, a public relations man in Washington, D.C., has come up with numerous suggestions for expanding the sport of FRISBEE including a luminous FRISBEE for city folks who have to devote the after-dark hours to the sport. Theis admits that this could result in a rash of flying saucer reports, but adds that the initial consternation should quickly subside.

... Architect Mark M. Velsey of Washington, D.C., has found that man's best friend can also be his favorite FRISBEE partner. His German Shepherd "Erie" reportedly has an interest in FRISBEE which transcends food, rest and even other dogs.

... Malcolm Nyhart, president of Colorado's C.R.M.S. Frisbee Society, sent us a full photo report of his group's recent elimination trials. IFA Newsletter wants information about you and FRISBEE.