

## Results of the second IAHS Ultimate Frisbee Tournament

*Empirical Distributed (ED)  
Modellers 8*

*Lumped Physically-Based  
(LPB) Modellers 1*

The Ultimate Frisbee Tournament has now become a tradition at IAHS meetings. Two years ago, in Perugia, the tournament was between the Distributed and the Lumped modellers, but unfortunately, the game had to be stopped due to poor light (it was almost dark!), so the teams tied at 1–1. This time, the teams were re-organized in a strange but efficient way, if we can judge from the very net score, and the game took place in Hyderabad just before the closing ceremony.

It is interesting to analyse the factors contributing to this victory:

- on the one hand, the ED team won because of its better spread on the field and because it was more efficient in defence: its members having no prejudice against calibration, they kept recalibrating all the time;
- on the other hand, the LPB team lost because they spent too much time discussing the physical significance of

effective parameter values (a discussion which did not really contribute to improve their performance). In particular, they lost time taking and analysing soil samples after falling on the ground, and complaining about the unavailability of satellite imagery. The fact that they stayed quite lumped on the field did not help either. They claimed finally that the score gave a wrong picture of their true intrinsic theoretical value, because the boundary conditions of the fields were poorly defined.

Of course, a single game is too little to draw any general conclusion. We need to collect more data in order to improve our knowledge. We noticed for example that the LPB team started to score at the end of the game, which probably shows that their perceptual model required a longer warm-up period.

But now, we would like to invite all IAHS members to train ready for the next game that will take place in Melbourne in 2011. We should get a better picture there of the value of the different ultimate (frisbee) modelling approaches.



*The two teams with the frisbee,*

*From left to right Barry Croke, Lionel Berthel, Wouter Buytaert, Audrey Valéry, Johan Strömqvist, Charles Perrin, Stan Schymanski, Georges Kuczera, x, Niels Schütze, Vazken Andréassian, Martijn Booij, Dmitri Kavetski, Gianluca Boldetti, Mark Thyer, Mehmet Demirel, Denis Hughes, x, x. With apologies to x*



*and some of the action*

## IAHS and the World Water Council

The World Water Council (WWC) was founded in 1997. Its aim was, and still is, “to promote awareness, build political commitment and trigger action on critical water issues at all levels”. Its main, but not exclusive, means of action is through the convening every three years of a World Water Forum. IAHS has been a member of the Council from the very start, seeing it as an opportunity to meet with and work alongside a wide range of actors in the freshwater community “to promote the study of hydrology as an aspect of the earth sciences and of water resources” – to quote from the IAHS Statutes. This has not been easy, given the heavy emphasis of most other members on management issues and economic and political aspects. We have strived to be active members of the Council. We have organized events within each of the five Fora held so far. While we have not made as much impact as we would have wished in raising the profile of hydrology and of scientific non-governmental organizations in general, we can say that our involvement with the Council over these 13 years has been worth the time and resources that we have devoted to it. The balance is positive largely because we have always been elected and re-elected to the Council’s Board of Governors over the years, which has given us more influence than most members have had.

Gordon Young is well known to the wider community of the World Water Council. He has attended many meetings of its Board and contributed personally to some of the World Water Fora. I myself have sat on the Board for over ten years, representing first WMO and then IAHS and some years ago I agreed to use my “bureaucratic” expertise to assist in the work that was needed to revise the Council’s Constitution, By-Laws and election procedures. As a result, I was appointed to the Bureau of the Council.

The Council recently held its Fifth General Assembly in Marseille, France. It was well planned, well run and conducted in a very open and positive spirit. It was attended by over 200 people representing about half of the 300 plus member organizations.

The meeting was suspended at one point for the signing of a formal agreement between the French Government, the city of Marseille and the Council which sets the stage for the Sixth World Water Forum to be held in Marseille in March 2012, with a budget of €38 million. This alone is a major achievement for the Council.

As agreed by the IAHS Bureau in Hyderabad, IAHS put forward its candidature for the Board of Governors of the Council with Gordon as Governor and myself as his