



United States Bobsled and Skeleton Federation

National Governing Body for the sports of Bobsled and Skeleton

USBSF Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2009
Colorado Springs – Olympic Training Center

In attendance:

Board: John Ball, John Rosen, John Donovan, Marci Francis, Ted Offit, Curt Tomasevicz, Valerie Fleming
Staff: Darrin Steele, Lisa Carlock
Other: Matt Cramer, Eric Parthen

Call to order at 2:00 p.m. MST.

USOC Report – Eric Parthen

- Alan Ashley is new Team Leader following USOC restructuring
- 54-person layoff, Sport Performance and Sport Partnership divisions merged to streamline
- Cautioned Board to stay the course, USBSF has experienced success throughout last two years but it was only preparation for the year leading up to the Games

USOC Resource Allocation – Matt Cramer

- Allocation process involves looking at all sports' short and long term plans and assessing potential for organizational and team success
- USBSF High Performance Plan was well articulated
- Funding components include Core programming (year after year, continual programming, i.e. World Cup, coaching salaries, Bodyn Project), Incremental Initiatives (new programming that would like to continue over time), Vancouver Advantage (items specific to Games, lead directly to athletic success in Vancouver, i.e. staging camps, new technology, Games related expenses), and Direct Athlete Support (stipends)
- Funding is determined on a sport by sport basis, assess where the USBSF is, where it wants to get, and how the USOC can support
- \$350,000 increase in funding from USOC for 2009-2010 season
- What could have made USBSF High Performance Plan better? Value put on passion of coaches and staff and belief in the plan, plan direction was excellent, maintain consistency going forward, need results in planning and performance

Vancouver Games Update – Matt Cramer

- USOC Team Selection Working Group evaluates NBG's plans for team selection, staff selection and accreditation
- Determines selection criteria and timeline, reviews procedures, legal aspects and equitability of process
- All staff is evaluated for potential impact on performance

Discussion on State of the Board

- Board was set up with staggered terms to provide for some continuity from quad to quad
- At-large and Independent Director terms expire June 30, 2009, have 2 candidates for At-large and 6 for Independent positions
- USOC can provide some training for new director(s)



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- Auxiliary boards for fundraising are becoming more prevalent with economy getting worse, have no governance authority, essentially a “pay to play” director position, Eric Parthen will work with Darrin to help start
- Can change Club Director to Independent or At-large position but cannot change National Organization Director due to Ted Steven’s Act
- Can’t force but would like to encourage equity in gender representation

Motion by John Rosen to approve minutes for 12/12/08, 3/17/09, 5/6/09, and 5/23/09 Board meetings
Seconded by John Donovan
Unanimously approved

Financial Report – Darrin Steele

- 08-09 year-end income statement
 - -\$162,000 for the year of which -\$110,000 is from Board fundraising and -\$20,000 is from general fundraising
 - Made \$7,000 at Bodyn event, need to reclassify from “other income/interest” on income statement
 - -\$40,000 from USBSF Trust – Ted Offit to investigate \$0 payment for 2008-09
 - Additional \$10,000 in revenue from FIBT
 - -\$80,000 in sport programming from National Team Camp (\$42,000), athlete incentives (\$25,000), and athlete stipend (\$8,000) – all covered by USOC reallocations
 - \$7,500 in Board donations to be reclassified to fundraising on income statement
 - \$13,000 from Vail fundraiser for Team Captainship, need to invoice, reserve was \$20,000, discussion to retract offer or reduce package but opted to keep package intact
- 09-10
 - Anticipate going red in October, credit line will cover but will have significant challenges in the winter, will ask USOC for front-loaded payment schedule to alleviate
 - Share the Ride program – KOM having positive feedback on business side, 23 potentials to sign right now, keep KOM intact because of potential for success with Share the Ride
 - Potential to sign Lucas Oil
 - Share the Dream program – pursue donations from former Olympic medalists, \$0 budgeted, expand to all former Olympians instead of just medalists
 - KOM pursuing resign of Allianz
 - Proposed \$0 budget for 09-10
 - Unfunded items – additional Calgary training program following push championships, administrative and medical needs, National Team Camp, recruiting, support for volunteer ATC, Europa Cup coach, Chula Vista push track, simulator, skeleton technology summit

Discussions

- Chula Vista push track – John Ball is working on construction blueprints, has support from Tracy Lamb (CVOTC Director), potential to be revenue generating for Chula Vista community (passenger ride program)
- Pursue ice house instead of push track? ORDA would like to invest, Vilter to provide refrigeration
- Housing difficulties in Lake Placid, cut available beds to bring in foreign teams to generate revenue
- No lodging in Park City, need to find way to house athletes
- Share the Ride program – give general membership to donors?
- Phone expenses are high – investigate Skype, Boingo, Net2Phone, upgrade plans for international travel?



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Audit report – Ted Offit

- USOC audits at least every 2 years, USOC can decertify NGB if it doesn't display managerial capabilities
- 10 recommendations on 06-08 audit, none significant
 - IR grant repayment
 - Online bill payments, additional oversight
 - Agreements with independent contractors
 - 1042S filings
 - Charitable solicitation registrations
 - Conflict of interest disclosure
 - Board member reimbursements
 - Credit card refunds
 - Pros Consulting report
- USBSF is heavily reliant on USOC funding, currently providing 77% of revenue

Board Elections

- Will be 3 vacancies as of July 1, no Board Chair
- Nominating and Governance Committee selects new Board members, Board will elect Chair
 - Chair elected at first Board meeting of odd numbered years
- Board will select Interim Chair to serve for approximately 3 months until first face-to-face board meeting, will not select permanent Chair until new Board members can be involved in process
- Election for Interim Chair to be held Friday afternoon when all Board members are present

Discussions

- Need to leverage performance at Olympics to not let sponsorship fall off
- Consider corporate partnership programs, meet & greet
- Board needs to be engaged immediate post-Olympics
- Establish speaking program with Olympic athletes
- KOM Tour of Champions
- Athlete turnover after 2010
- Online campaign with Under Armour
- Does auxiliary board relieve real board of fundraising obligations? Board still needs to pursue small gifts
- NASCAR connection – utilize Geoff Bodine, problems with competing for sponsors
- Pursue potential connections with Corvette clubs, hydroplane circuits
- Focus on sustainability and athlete pipeline
- Organizations involved in sport are all fragmented, no unity – work with other winter sports to secure sponsors jointly, venue-centric
- Long term strategies should focus on working towards ice house in Lake Placid

Adjourned at 6:10 p.m. MST.

