



USA RACQUETBALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, July 27, 2020

5:30 pm MT

Videoconference via Zoom

MINUTES

Blue = motions/votes

Called to order by President Dan Whitley at 5:34 pm MT

Roll Call -- Cheryl Kirk

Attending – Thurman Brooks, Steve Czarnecki (Treasurer), Michelle De La Rosa (Athlete Rep), Scott Fish, Mike Grisz, Mike Kiedrowski, Cheryl Kirk (Secretary), Danielle Maddux (Athlete Rep – arrived after committee votes), Charlie Pratt (Athlete Rep), Terry Rogers, JD Shelton, Stewart Solomon (Vice President), Cindy Tilbury, Mike Wedel (Executive Director), Dan Whitley (President)

A quorum was achieved. President Whitley provided prior notice of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes - Cheryl Kirk

Motion by Mike Grisz to approve the June 29, 2020, Board meeting minutes forwarded prior to this call.

Seconded by Terry Rogers

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

Pre-read Document Q&A: An initiative was launched to gather committee, project, and individual reports into a pre-read document each month that Board members will review and bring questions and feedback to meetings. Longer reports will be sent separately.

Executive Committee Update (Dan Whitley) -- No questions/comments

Committee Updates (Stewart Solomon)

⇒ **US Team Committee – US Adult Team Qualifying Process** (Cheryl Kirk/Mike Wedel; see submitted US Team Committee Report)

Motion by Charlie Pratt to accept the recommendations of the US Team Committee to eliminate the US OPEN as part of the National Team qualifying process and revise weighted point percentages to 60% at National Singles Championship and 40% Singles qualifying divisions at the National Doubles Championships.

Seconded by Mike Grisz

Comments -- EAH administrative attention may be needed in an updated US Team Handbook.

Vote – Passed unanimously, 13-0

- ⇒ **HOF Committee and Awards Committee Recommendations** (Terry Rogers; see submitted HOF Criteria & Annual Award Report)

Key change: Committee recommends after leaving board service that there be no waiting period for athletes being nominated in a Competitor category.

Motion by Cheryl Kirk to accept the recommendations of the Hall of Fame/Awards Committee to revise HOF Criteria in the document dated July 27, 2020, with revision to document end of section 3 amateur tour event: eliminate the word tour, lower case amateur; and in section 5 outdoor player, eliminate the references to season-ending pro tour rankings (since they do not presently exist).

Seconded by Charlie Pratt.

Discussion: Several questions posed about minor verbiage revisions in the committee report.

Vote: Passed unanimously, 13-0

Motion by Cheryl Kirk to accept the recommendations of the Hall of Fame/Awards Committee to revise Annual Awards Criteria in the document dated July 27, 2020.

Seconded by Stewart Solomon

Discussion: Several questions and comments about tightening up the processes in the document. Concern expressed about Joe Sobek Outstanding Contribution Award non-eligibility for Hall of Fame members.

Vote: Motion did not pass 5-7 with 1 abstention

The document will be sent back to the committee accompanied by Board comments.

- ⇒ **Membership Committee (Terry Rogers)** – This committee has just regrouped and held its first meeting. Initial proposed activities include securing an intern to scrub the database for incorrect member contact information and duplicate profiles; reaching out to the state associations for membership renewal assistance; social media posts from the state associations to encourage members to update their membership profiles in the database.
- ⇒ **Fundraising Committee (Stewart Solomon)** -- Started to align on the mission, more robust. Excited about Giving Games.
- ⇒ **Referee Committee (Stewart Solomon)** -- Working on update based on rules changes ratified at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors on May 27, 2020. The approved rules changes take effect on September 1, 2020.
- ⇒ **Legislative Committee (Cheryl Kirk)** -- The committee will be proposing bylaws revisions necessary to implement the Board Composition Plan as directed by Board motion at the June 29, 2020, meeting. Notification of bylaws revisions to be presented for ratification at the August 24, 2020, Board of Directors mtg. must reach the Board by August 9, 2020.

Project Updates (Dan Whitley)

- ⇒ **Future of Racquetball** (Cheryl Kirk; see submitted document) -- Bring states together in common mission to save courts; State President letter #2 sent out 7/27; involved project leaders are Larry Haemmerle, Mike Grisz, Laura Pesek, and Cheryl Kirk.
- ⇒ **New Mission Statement and Core Values** (Thurman Brooks and Dan Whitley; see pre-read document) -- Tabled for future discussion.
- ⇒ **Finance Committee** (Steve Czarnecki; see submitted Financials 1-5)

⇒ **Executive Director Update** (Mike Wedel; see pre-read document) -- Staff structure; USOPC Digital Media Agreement; face covering fundraiser; see submitted membership summary; Economic Injury Disaster Loans; Real Racquetball Show; monthly newsletter*; US OPEN postponement; new USOPC website platform**

*Discussion surrounding exploration of ad value in the newsletter, etc. Statistics on our members (analytics) to find out more about what they want to see and what they will support.

**New website platform "Donation" button gives the impression that people are donating to USAR when in reality they are donation to the USOPC.

Giving Games (Mike Wedel; see pre-read and additional submitted documents)

- Medal of Giving donations all go directly to USAR.
- Their website has a lot of information about the various sports, donors, partners, why, how, and Medal of Giving standings. giving-games.com
- Laura Brandt, Steve Czarnecki, and Sal Perconti are on the Medal of Giving podium as of this meeting.
- Auction sweepstakes should be successful.
- World Record is August 8 or 9. It is based on number of donations, make small donations. Whatever the number is, it will set a record based on established criteria.
- The Board can share, promote it, push it out. Mike emphasized that when you send out appeals, a key point is that Giving Games is not associated with the USOPC in any way. It is not a sanctioned USOPC fundraising initiative; it is an NGB function. There should be no mention of the USOPC, Olympics, and/or Tokyo 2020/21.
- Challenge our members: Can you continue to support racquetball, even in the absence of tournaments? Through this and other initiatives, we need to keep our members occupied, motivated, and feeling appreciated.

Outstanding items

US Junior Team Selection Process Update (Charlie Pratt). Fourth week of video submissions. Sixty juniors are sending in videos every week, and the coaches are engaged in keeping up with them. A draft roster will be built in the first half of August by the coaches with the assistance of the advisory group. Then the roster will be submitted for ratification to the US Team Committee and then to the Board of Directors. An idea was voiced as to whether a video commemorating the players' activity this summer could be created.

Michelle De La Rosa offered that the Las Vegas 3WallBall event is still scheduled to take place in September.

Next Meeting -- August 24, 2020

Motion to Adjourn: Steve Czarnecki
Seconded by Cindy Tilbury

Adjourned 7:31 pm MT

Materials provided to Board by President Dan Whitley, Secretary Cheryl Kirk, Treasurer Steve Czarnecki, and Committee/Project Chairs

Administration

USAR BOD Meeting Agenda 7/27/20

USAR BOD Minutes 6/29/2020

Board Pre-Read Document

- Executive Committee Update
- Executive Director Update *
- Finance Committee Update **
- US Team Committee -- US Team Qualifying Process (separate document***)
- Hall of Fame/Awards Committee -- Annual Award Proposed; HOF Criteria (two separate documents****)
- Referee Committee
- Legislative Committee

*** Monthly USAR Membership Summary**

*** Staff Structure Thoughts**

*** USA Racquetball Face Covering Fundraiser**

****Financials**

Finance 1 -- Memo to Board (2020-7-24)

Finance 2 -- USAR Balance Sheet (2020-6-30)

Finance 3 -- USAR PL vs. SPLY (Jan-June 2020)

Finance 4 -- USAR PL vs. Budget (June 2020)

Finance 5 -- Cash Flow Analysis (2020-7-23)

***** US Team Committee Report**

****** Hall of Fame/Awards Proposals**

Future of Racquetball Project Update