



Minutes

Board of Directors

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

<p>Board Members in Attendance: Denise Shively, Irene Hawes, Ashley Johnson, Carrie Barton-Garten (General Athlete Representative), Chris Leahy, Emmanuella Tchakmakjian (AEC President), Linda Loehndorf (non-voting, Past President), Stacey Chapman, Jennifer Jarboe, Morgan Fuller Kolsrud, Megan Robins (Athlete At-Large), Joanne Pasternack, Jennell Lynch, Kimberly Kohut (non-voting; Secretary)</p>	
<p>Staff Members in Attendance: Adam Andrasko</p>	
<p>Others:</p>	
<p>Excused: Michele Kraus Bennett, Lauren Gardner, Olivia Ekberg (non-voting; AAC alternate), Kerhyl Gantt</p>	
<p>Called to Order At: 8:32 PM EST</p>	<p>BY: Denise Shively. A quorum was declared.</p>

Topic	Approval of Minutes from 1.27.21	Presented by	Denise Shively
Discussion	<p>Motion: Chris Leahy motioned to approve the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting on January 27, 2021</p> <p>Seconded by: Stacey Chapman</p> <p>Motion approved.</p> <p>Vote: Yes- 8, No- 0, Abstain-0</p>		

Topic	Athlete Report	Presented by	Emmanuella Tchakmakjian Morgan Fuller Kolsrud
Discussion	<p>See report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition webinar coming up • Planning synchro family game nights 		

Topic	Treasurer's Report	Presented by	Jennifer Jarboe
Discussion	See report		

Topic	VP Competitive Operations	Presented by	Chris Leahy
Discussion	See report		

Topic	VP Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion	Presented by	Ashley Johnson
Discussion	See report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledged Alyssa Jacobs' work to change our look on social media 		

Topic	VP Marketing and Member Development	Presented by	Michele Kraus Bennett
Discussion	No report submitted		

Topic	VP Olympic International	Presented by	Irene Hawes
Discussion	See report		

Topic	Mission Statement/Strategic Plan	Presented by	Adam Andrasko/Denise Shively
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Began discussion of mission statement by conducting a poll of three options Discussion occurred to edit the mission statement <p>Motion: Megan Robins motioned to approve the new mission statement: <i>"Lead in the advancement of artistic swimming by empowering athletes to achieve competitive success, uniting and inspiring our community to pursue lifelong excellence and involvement in the sport."</i></p> <p>Seconded by: Emmanuella Tchakmakjian</p> <p>Motion approved.</p> <p>Vote: Yes-11, No-0, Abstain-0</p> <p>Note: The mission statement was approved by the BOD. However, following the meeting, it was noticed that the sentence structure wasn't quite correct. A minor edit was made (per Alyssa Jacobs, Adam Andrasko, Denise Shively) to make the structure correct. The edited version was sent to the BOD and hearing no objections the edited version was presented to the membership.</p> <p>Edited version:</p> <p><i>Lead in the advancement of artistic swimming by empowering athletes to achieve competitive success, uniting our community and inspiring our membership to pursue lifelong excellence and involvement in the sport.</i></p>		

Topic	President's Report	Presented by	Denise Shively
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At our next meeting, we will align our top four strategies to our new mission statement. Denise asked that everyone review the plan and send any comments to her. 		

Adjournment at 9:47 PM EST		
Moved to adjourn by: Morgan Fuller Kolsrud	Seconded by: Stacey Chapman	Motion Approved unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,



Kimberly A. Kohut
Secretary

Attachments: Athlete Report, Treasurer's Report, VP Competitive Ops Report, VP DEI Report, VP Olympic International Report

February Athlete Report

AEC Report:

Submitted by AEC President Emma Tchakmakjian.

In honor of National Nutrition Month, the AEC will host a webinar for athletes led by Katie Spada titled **Fuel Up! For Training and Life!**

The AEC will implement a new series titled “Synchro Family Game Night” where our athletes can interact and have a chance to relax and reenergize.

AAC Report:

Submitted by AAC Representative Morgan Fuller Kolsrud.

The AAC Quad kick-off meeting took place on Feb 6-7th. We confirmed our new leadership for the next two years. We went through the same strategic planning session with Avery Wilson from the USOPC that we did as a BOD. The outcomes of that exercise will help guide our work for the next Quad.

Some personal take-aways from the meeting that I think we can apply to USAAS are below:

- Hosting ‘Meet you Athlete Reps’ webinars & USAAS social posts introducing the AEC reps and their responsibilities.
 - This will help our athletes not only get to know us, but raise awareness and excitement about opportunities for them to get involved.
- Hosting Athlete Town Hall meetings
- Provide onboarding for new national team athletes
 - Including an introduction to their athlete reps
 - Overview of resources available to them
- Exploring different ways to reach athletes to provide them information
 - Self-serve information made available on the website
 - Athlete reps

DEI Report

We are still working to continuing our work. A few things that have been completed

- 1- The Committee had their 1st meeting that went well. One hot topic was getting exposure of AS in any national swim school. Goldfish Swim was our focus. This connection will allow outreach to all genders and races. Adam and I had a great zoom meeting.
- 2- Alyssa has done a beautiful job with the black history post on social media for this month. Now looking at the IG page is really picking up with a new look. The feedback and, support and post shares have been well received EXCEPT for one extremely racist post but it was handled.
- 3- I was asked to join an international AWD call to help all countries along with USA to implement and unify rules across the countries for future possibilities and growth. (their own rules nothing to do with FINA...JUST TO BE CLEAR!!!!)
- 4- I have the 4 BEST DEI Zone Chairs! Kim, Patrice, Sahara make moves!! It was not easy but all Association DEI Chairs are set. They have been a huge help in getting DEI info out to the country. Very thankful to have them

Respectfully

AJ

FINANCIAL UPDATE – FEBRUARY 24, 2021

ACCOUNT STATUS (as of early Jan)

Checking

Cash On-Hand	\$138,951
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Investment Accounts

Charles Schwab	\$58,157 (increase +1.1%)
Thurston Springer – Non-Restricted	\$108,468 (increase +1.6%)
Edmark - Restricted	\$301,309 (slight decrease -0.2%)
Total Available in Investment Accounts	~\$468,000

P&L (as of 1/31)

Revenues

Corporate Ops	\$3,185
Education	\$3,515
Events	\$2,935
Fundraising	\$5
Marketing	\$5,237
Membership	\$21,100
National Teams	\$81,000
Pipeline Development	\$3,535
Total Income	\$114,242

Expenses

Corporate Ops	\$74,291
Education	\$0
Events	\$10,390
Fundraising	\$0
Marketing	\$29
Membership	\$62
National Teams	\$19,317
Pipeline Development	\$0
Total Expenses	\$104,090



**WE MOVE AS
ONE**

Vice President Olympic International

Feb 2021

As you may have all heard and seen, USA Artistic Swimming completed the 1st Virtual World Series Artistic Swimming Event. It was through the hard work of FINA, USA Staff that this was able to take place. A big thank you to Baylee, Adam, Chris, Maggie and Betty. Several of our US officials also volunteered as timers for the event. USA was represented by Kim Kohut and Melodie Wallace as the USA FINA judges to the event. Eleven Federations participated along with a Club from Korea.

FINA judges from around the world stepped up to help make this event a success. Participating countries were Aruba, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Chili, Columbia, Spain, France, Great Britain, Israel, Korea, Portugal, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden and of course the US. This was very special as of the time zones had some participating well into the early hours of the morning. It was a very enthusiastic group of officials.

Canada is next for the Virtual World Series but France is considering also going virtual, and with the success of our event it may be happening.

Results:

Duet Tech: Anita Alvarez and Lindi Schroder 1st Place with a score of 83.4588 which was 2.9931 higher than 2nd Place which went to Belarus and Bronze to Liechtenstein.

Solo Tech: Nicole Dzurko placed 1st with a score of 79.6044. Aruba was 2nd with Sweden 3rd.

Duet Free: Lindi and Anita continued their gold medal performance with a second gold in the Free event. They had a score of 84.9333. this was 3.2333 higher than 2nd place which went to Belarus and Columbia moved into 3rd Place.

Solo Free: Jacqueline Simoneau placed 1st from Canada with a score of 90.1000 followed by Anita Alvarez in 2nd with a score of 87.133 receiving some marks for 1st place. Belarus placed 3rd.

Senior Male Solo Free: Bill May was one of 2 soloists in this inaugural event for the World Series. With a very strong artistic performance he scored 86.7333. Spain placed 2nd.

Team Free: USA had a very strong performance in the team event and took the Gold with a 87.5667. They continue to improve and received a 9 in each of the 3 categories. The future is looking very bright.

Highlight: USA took the final gold of the championship and also made history with Bill May participating with the team. This was the 1st time that the Highlight routine allowed a male swimmer in the event. They scored 85.9000 to Spain's silver performance of 85.600.

Team USA took the overall highpoint, with 295 points. Spain was second with 210 points and Belarus 3rd with 160 points.

Respectfully submitted

Irene Hawes

VP Competitive Operations Report

February 2021

World Series Virtual Event

Judging for the world series event has finished. The webcast for this event is February 20-21. A huge thank you to the organizing committee for making this event work. Irene, as the referee, Betty as the judges' coordinator, Maggie as the chief recorder and Baylee as the meet manager. This is the first in-water virtual competition for FINA and the organizing committee did an immense amount of up-front work to make this competition as close as possible to an in-person competition. Due to their planning and flexibility, they were able to handle technical issues as they came up and make this event a success.

National Championship / Junior Championship

Oro Valley is unable to host the championships, and the championship will have to be rescheduled. It looks like we will be able to add a few extra days to the Mesa event and have these championships following the 13-15 Championship/12U Invitational.

Collegiate Championship

Adam and Baylee are currently discussing options with Stanford to see what sort of event we may be able to host. Most collegiate clubs are not able to compete this season. We are hopeful that we will be able to have an in-person championship for the clubs that are able to travel but are currently exploring the costs involved. We are also investigating virtual options for clubs that will not be able to travel to the championship.

13-15 Championship/12U Invitational

Planning is still proceeding for this potentially expanded championship. We will continue to evaluate the COVID situation at 60 and 30 days out. There is currently a survey out for clubs to gauge interest in this event to help determine estimated numbers for the event.