



Minutes

Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Board Members in Attendance: Denise Shively, Irene Hawes, Ashley Johnson, Chris Leahy, Emmanuella Tchakmakjian (AEC President), Linda Loehndorf (non-voting, Past President), Michele Kraus Bennett, Stacey Chapman, Jennifer Jarboe, Morgan Fuller Kolsrud, Megan Robins (Athlete At-Large), Jennell Lynch, Kerhyl Gantt, Kimberly Kohut (non-voting; Secretary)

Staff Members in Attendance: Adam Andrasko

Others:

Excused: Carrie Barton-Garten (General Athlete Representative), Lauren Gardner, Joanne Pasternack

Called to Order At: 8:31 PM EDT

BY: Denise Shively. A quorum was declared.

Topic	Approval of Minutes from 2.24.21	Presented by	Denise Shively
Discussion	<p>Motion: Irene Hawes motioned to approve the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting on February 24, 2021</p> <p>Seconded by: Chris Leahy</p> <p>Motion approved.</p> <p>Vote: Yes-11, 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"> Meet your athlete reps events are being schedule with synchro family game night Olivia Ekberg resigned as AAC alternate Elections scheduled in May, but may push back to August National Team Network kicked off and first meeting went well 		

Topic	Appendix T (Athlete Bill of Rights)	Presented by	Emmanuella Tchakmakjian Morgan Fuller Kolsrud
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Athlete Bill of Rights (Appendix T) was presented to the BOD Discussion occurred and amendments were proposed Board of Directors would like to send this back to Governance for content approval, then the BOD will vote on it via email in the next few weeks 		

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

Topic	VP Competitive Operations	Presented by	Chris Leahy
Discussion	See report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A task force is being created to examine our competitive structure 		

Topic	VP Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion	Presented by	Ashley Johnson
Discussion	No report submitted		

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

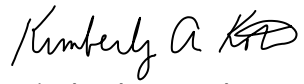
Topic	VP Olympic International	Presented by	Irene Hawes
Discussion	See report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additionally, the World Series French Open has been cancelled 		

Topic	Mission Statement/Strategic Plan	Presented by	Adam Andrasko/Denise Shively
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was tabled and will be discussed at the next meeting 		

Topic	President's Report	Presented by	Denise Shively
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting will be May 5 or 12 due to the conflict with the national competitions at the end of April Reminder that SafeSport and Background Checks need to be current 		

Adjournment at 10:08 PM EDT		
Moved to adjourn by: Chris Leahy	Seconded by: Irene Hawes	Motion Approved unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Handwritten signature of Kimberly A. Kohut in black ink.

Kimberly A. Kohut

Secretary

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

March Athlete Report

AEC Report:

Submitted by AEC President Emma Tchakmakjian.

- We're bringing the Athlete Bill of Rights to the Board for approval at our March 24 Meeting. We have been working with Governance to get this going recently, however, it has been in the works for many months.
- We believe it's important to give opportunities to our athlete membership to meet their athlete representatives. The AEC decided to implement a "collab" with meeting Athlete Reps and Synchro Family Game Night. We aim to have a different group of athlete reps run Synchro Family Game Night so that participants can meet them and play a fun game after! We hope to have our sponsors provide some items for the winners!
The first Synchro Family Game night will take place on April 11 at 5pm PST and will be hosted by the AEC.
The second Synchro Family Game night will be hosted by our Zone Representatives in May and the date will be decided soon.
- We're starting up our code proposals for the 2021 Convention.

AAC Report:

Submitted by AAC Representative Morgan Fuller Kolsrud.

- Olivia Ekberg has resigned as AAC Alternate. We will hold elections for the new AAC Alternate at the same time as the election for the primary AAC Rep later this year, but will be finding new athletes to replace Olivia on all of her committees. Thank you Olivia for all of your work!
- The AEC Nutrition Webinar with Katie Spada took place on Sunday, March 14th. There were about 60 people registered and 25 members attended, including coaches and officials. We received wonderful feedback about the presentation and coaches were eager to share the resources with their athletes. They loved Katie's focus on listening to your body and fueling for success.
- The National Team mentorship program is getting ready to launch. Athletes have been paired with Olympian mentors and we will be hosting a kick-off meeting in the coming weeks.

FINANCIAL UPDATE – MARCH 24, 2021

ACCOUNT STATUS (as of 3/23)

Checking

Cash On-Hand	\$207,797
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Investment Accounts

Charles Schwab	\$56,649 (slight decrease)
Thurston Springer – Non-Restricted	\$106,324 (slight decrease)
Edmark - Restricted	\$289,419 (slight decrease)
Total Available in Investment Accounts	~\$450,000

P&L since January (as of 2/28)

Revenues

Corporate Ops	-\$3,445
Education	\$2,485
Events	\$12,295
Fundraising	\$120
Marketing	\$433
Membership	\$23,760
National Teams	\$0
Pipeline Development	\$2,995
Total Income	\$38,643

Expenses

Corporate Ops	-\$5,361
Education	\$0
Events	\$24,801
Fundraising	\$0
Marketing	\$29
Membership	\$62
National Teams	\$10,120
Pipeline Development	\$0
Total Expenses	\$29,651



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VP Competitive Operations Report

March 2021

Collegiate Championship

The Collegiate Championship at Stanford is going forward. Entries are due 3/18, so final numbers should be available by Wednesday's meeting. In addition, the national office is working on hosting a virtual competition for those programs that are unable to travel. The Collegiate committee and College athlete meetings that are normally held during this championship will be held virtually instead to allow for participation for those unable to travel to the Championship.

Mesa Championships

The US National/US Junior Championships will now take place in Mesa, AZ following the 12U Invitational/13-15 Championship. Currently, we expect to be able to host the championships even with COVID-19 restriction. The exact restrictions for the event are being finalized and will depend on the current facility restrictions as well as the total number of participants in the event.

Junior Olympic Championship

Planning for the Junior Olympic Championship is ongoing. There will be a meeting with the association chairs later this month to discuss potential waivers for this due to COVID-19. Once the waivers have been finalized, a preliminary schedule that incorporates those updates and adds the co-located Athletes with Disability Invitational will be published.

Junior/Senior Open

While the World Series event happened last month virtually, there is a non-World Series Junior/Senior competition that has been co-located with the World Series event. The national office is currently evaluating the financial and logistical feasibility of hosting a physical event in the mid-July timeframe.

Masters Championship

The 2021 US Masters Championship has officially been announced to be at Henderson, NV October 21-24. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Action Items

Our competitive structure has evolved in recent years to add a 13-15 championship and a 12&Under invitational. The timeframe for Junior/Senior Open event has moved from year to year to coincide with the Canadian World Series event and/or to best support the National team. We are currently exploring adding additional categories (Athletes with Disabilities) and are testing experimental events such as the Male Solo event. With all of this, the organization has not holistically examined our competitive structure in quite a while. I propose the Board of Directors create a task force to do so.

Proposed scope: To provide the USAAS Board of Directors with a report, by the 2021 annual meeting, with the following:

- What championships USAAS should host, including determining which if any championships should be co-located
- What events should be at each championship
- Guidelines for when each championship should be held
- Qualification requirements for each championship, including overqualification rules

Based on feedback from the Board of Governors, and the Board of Directors, the task force should then work to propose updates to the technical rules for the 2022 annual meeting and work with the national office to determine how best to implement the new

Proposed Members:

- VP of Competitive Operations
- AEC VP of Competitive Operations
- 1 Independent Director
- 1 representative from each zone selected by the President and/or VP of Competitive Operations
- 2 additional athlete representatives appointed by the AEC President
- 1 USAAS Employee as a non-voting member

VP Olympic International

International Competitions:

The National Team will not be competing at the 2021 UANA Pan American Championship in Aruba May 25-28, 2021, as the dates of the competition conflicted with our Junior athletes training and AP Testing in the US. The United States will be represented by 2 Clubs:

Southern Nevada Desert Mermaids

12&U Solo: Alina Khoussainov

13-15 solo: - Perry Daniels

13-15 duet: - Jennifer Ryu, Nicolette Tselikis

Scottsdale Synchro

2&U Solo – Mona Schwickert

12&U Mixed Duet – Mona & Mikolas Schwickert

13-15 Solo - Sophie Schroeder

13-15 Duet – Ella Clancy & Victoria Volfson

Junior Solo (Tech/ Free) – Maya Schwickert

Junior Duet (Tech/ Free) – Maya Schwickert, Natalie Franson, Una Tatar-Timbergo

FINA World Series- Budapest. It appears that this will be an in-person competition. At this time the US will not be entering this competition.

South Africa

A request has been received from South Africa to swim as test swimmers at our Collegiate Nationals. Unfortunately, this could not be accommodated as our Rules do not allow for Foreign Competitors at our Collegiate Championships. However, we have reached out to our USA FINA judges to see if they would be willing to view the video from South Africa, and give comments to them to try and support their journey to the Olympics. The request came from a former Lindenwood Collegiate athlete from South Africa.

National Team Trials Phase 2 for the 13-15 athletes is currently underway virtually.

There are approximately 90 athletes who have or will be submitting videos for review. All athletes will move onto the Phase 3 trials in Arizona on April 21, 2021.

Invitational:

Coral Springs will be hosting a 2021 Novice, Intermediate, 12-U, 13-15 Age Group & Athletes with Disabilities Worldwide Invitational on May 21 -23, 2021.

Mexico Hope Festival

This is a virtual competition with the deadline for submission of videos on March 13, 2021. The “competition” will occur on March 18-20, 2021. The US Judges for this competition are Shannon Korpela and Svetlana Malinovskaya. The US is represented

by the Coral Springs Aquacades, DC Synchromasters and Wisconsin Waterloons,
Synchro Storm (mixed duet) and 5280 Synchro

Hiea Yoon Kang was recently named as the 13-15 National Team Assistant Coach.

Respectfully submitted

Irene Hawes