



Member, United States
Olympic & Paralympic Committee

USA Team Handball board meeting

Minutes of the 8-Sep-2021 regular meeting teleconference

Board members in attendance

- Michael Wall -- Chair
- Tracy Deforge
- Sandra De La Riva Repede
- Jennifer Fithian
- Patrick Jalabert -- acting as secretary
- Mark Ortega
- Ebiye Udo Udoma

Board members excused

- Camille Nichols
- Julian Orr

USATH Staff in attendance

- Ryan Johnson -- CEO

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10 am MT by Michael Wall, Chair. Mr. Wall thanked board members for joining, and reminded them that several topics would be discussed, as detailed in the shared agenda. Mr. Wall asked Mr. Jalabert to act as secretary, and take minutes for the meeting.

As previously agreed during the previous meeting, this meeting was opened to the USATH community as a webinar, excluding the executive session.

Agenda item #1 -- CEO report

- Mr. Johnson presented finalized versions of the code of conduct and conflict of interest policies, in line with commitments made during the previous meeting.

Motion

A motion was made to approve the policies, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

- Mr. Johnson presented a finalized version of the capitalization policy discussed during the previous meeting.

Motion

A motion was made to approve capitalization policy, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

- Mr. Johnson provided an update on the NACHC Women's World Championship qualifier, including many lessons learnt relative to international event hosting, and the NACHC's structure. The team itself will need more opportunities to practice and "gel" together.
- One COVID case was reported, but the protocol was overall seen as successful, given that it contained the issue and prevented a spread. Some points of improvement were noted nonetheless.
- The High Performance plan will be built over the coming month, including a focus on developing athletes domestically.
- Mr. Johnson provided an update on the upcoming SuperGlobe qualifier, which was successfully hosted in San Francisco.
- Mr. Johnson discussed the topic of the EHF Beach Champions Cup, to which we expect a Wild Card invitation. Mr. Udo Udoma raised the question of potential support from the organization, and inquired about any on-going apparel deals USATH may have.
- Mr. Johnson provided an update on audits:
 - The USOPC audit was on-going, with no concerns to date.
 - The SafeSport audit was on-going, with no concerns to date.
 - Some membership coverage issues were expected, primarily due to the on-going transition to the new Sport:80 platform, but a corrective action plan was being worked on.

Agenda item #2 -- Audit & Compensation Committee report

- Ms. De La Riva Repede stated that the 2020 taxes had been completed, and the committee was recommending they be approved for filing.

Motion

A motion was made to approve the 2020 taxes, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

- The cost of the independent financial audit was \$5,900. The cost of the 2020 tax preparation was \$980.

Agenda item #3 -- Nominating & Governance Committee

- Mr. Oshita and Ms. Messel resigned their positions on the committee.
- The AAC will be expected to provide a recommendation to replace Ms. Messel, and will plan on addressing the topic during their next scheduled call.
- Mr. Wall mentioned that he was working with Dave Patterson at the USOPC for recommendations to replace Mr. Oshita.

Agenda item #4 -- Judicial Committee

- Mr. Wall presented Brad Suchorski for appointment to the committee, and had sent his credentials to the board ahead of the meeting.

Motion

A motion was made to approve the appointment of Brad Suchorski to the committee, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

- Mr. Wall noted that Dave Buckman was working with Dave Patterson for additional recommendations.

Agenda item #5 -- USATH's Responses to USOPC Recommendations

- Mr. Wall had shared the responses with the board ahead of the meeting, and they were reviewed point by point.

Agenda item #6 -- October board meeting

- Mr. Wall noted that the last in-person meeting was held in Oct-2019. However, due to the on-going COVID-19 trend, the board elected to delay an in-person meeting until 2022.
- The board agreed to deviate from the by-laws requirement of hosting one meeting in person per year, in light of the on-going pandemic.

Additional topics (not listed on the agenda)

- Mr. Johnson expressed gratitude to the volunteers that supported the NACHC event in Elgin, IL.

Executive session

The board entered executive session at 11 am MT, ending the webinar. Mr. Johnson also left the meeting.

- The Board discussed the CEO evaluation tool and a timetable for Mr. Johnson's first annual evaluation, to be held in Jan-2022.

Motion

A motion to adjourn was made at 11.20 am MT, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Patrick Jalabert served as Secretary.