



Member, United States
Olympic & Paralympic Committee

USA Team Handball board meeting

Minutes of the 12-Apr-2022 regular meeting teleconference

Board members in attendance

- Michael Wall -- Chair
- Sandra De La Riva Repede
- Camille Nichols
- Julian Orr
- Mark Ortega
- Ebiye Udo Udoma

Board members excused

- Tracy Deforge
- Jennifer Fithian
- Patrick Jalabert -- acting as secretary

USATH Staff in attendance

- Ryan Johnson -- CEO

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2 pm 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. In Mr. Jalabert's absence, the meeting would be recorded and transcribed from the recording.

This meeting was opened to the USATH community as a webinar, excluding the executive session.

Agenda item #1 -- CEO report

- Mr. Johnson provided an update on membership, which had grown to 994 members by the time of the meeting, with an additional 85 in process of becoming current members.
- Mr. Johnson provided an update on the junior women's team's campaign in Mexico City, with some encouraging progress for the group. The team earned a qualification to the Junior world championships in June 2022.
- Mr. Johnson noted that Ms. Austin had begun work on the cost estimates for the trip to Slovenia for that event.
- It was noted that there were no membership attendees. This was attributed to a transition in volunteer leadership on the social media side of the federation. It was noted that John Ryan had requested to take a step back from his volunteer role with the federation's social media campaign moving forward.
- Mr. Johnson provided an update on the college and youth nationals event, which was a successful event overall. The primary shortcoming was the compactness of the schedule, which will be an improvement axis moving forward. It was noted that community feedback would be a valuable tool to leverage for future improvements/corrections.
- Mr. Johnson also noted that a SafeSport audit took place during the event.
- Mr. Johnson noted that both women's and men's beach handball teams would be participating in the NACHC championships in the coming weeks.
- The men's indoor National team would be meeting to train for the upcoming NACHC qualifier event.
- The women's indoor National team was scheduled to have a training event after the Open National championships. Next year (2023) was expected to be a busier year in terms of tournaments, but the target was to keep the team engaged for 2022.
- Mr. Johnson was scheduled to travel to Europe to meet the French federation, the Hungarian federation, the EHF, and the IHF. The primary focus of the trip was to establish long term partnerships to align with a roadmap beyond 2023. Jean Brihault was to be involved with the full trip to provide guidance and support.
- Mr. Johnson provided an update on the USOPC audit, for which a few action items remained to be closed. One of the open topics was a request to include continental championships or higher to count towards athlete eligibility, by comparison to the official definition that only includes Olympic games and Pan American championships.

Agenda item #2 -- Orientation Process for new Board and Committee members

- Mr. Wall had circulated a process ahead of the meeting.
- It was noted that this item was part of the USOPC requirements from the audit conducted, and would be submitted to fulfill the need to have an established orientation process.
- Ms. Nichols recommended including an opportunity to meet the coaching staff and get exposure to the sport.

Agenda item #3 – Judicial Committee update

- Mr. Wall noted that the Judicial Committee had reviewed 47 submitted conflict of interest submissions.
- Four (4) of those submissions would be reviewed for further investigation.

Agenda item #4 -- Approval of Minutes of Board meetings: February 8 and March 8, 2022

- Mr. Wall had circulated the minutes from the February and March minutes meetings for review ahead of this meeting.
- It was noted that some minor adjustments had been made to limit the scope of shared information on the executive sessions.
- No objections were raised.

Motion

A motion was made to approve the minutes from both meetings, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

Executive session

The board entered executive session at 2.30 pm MT.

- Mr. Johnson noted that he would be providing a full update on the organization's finances during the next meeting, scheduled for May.
- Mr. Johnson provided an update on efforts to deploy coaches education for members and community leaders that would be interested in pursuing that avenue.
- Mr. Johnson noted that a candidate had been identified to lead the collegiate development efforts. A public announcement was expected shortly.
- The Board noted that KPI on the strategic plan would be reviewed during the next meeting.
- The Board discussed the election process for Mr. Orr's replacement.
- Mr. Johnson noted that the October gathering in Colorado Springs would be a better opportunity to provide a state of the organization to members, than the Open Nationals.

Motion

A motion to adjourn was made at 3 pm MT, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Patrick Jalabert served as Secretary, preparing the minutes based on the recorded webinar. No minutes were taken during the executive session.