



One Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909

www.usateamhandball.org

USATH Board Meeting Minutes

Date: December 14, 2015

Location: Teleconference

Time Initiated: 17:32 ET

Duration: 64 minutes

Board Member Attendees:

Dr. Harvey Schiller, President & Chairman

Bob Djokovich

Attila Agoston

David Thompson

Tomuke Ebuwei

Mike McNees

David Palmer

Alan Dizdarevic

Jennie Choi - excused: professional responsibilities

Reita Clanton - Auburn OTS Board Liaison - excused: professional responsibilities

Staff:

Michael D. Cavanaugh

Christian Latulippe - WNT Coach

Javier Garcia Cuesta - excused with death in the family

Candy Marturano - Accountant / Bookkeeper: excused by doctor's appointment

Guests:

Rick Hurst - Foundation President

Dennis Berkholtz - Director of BEACH Handball, Director of Business Development

Roll Call, Quorum Established, 10/5 Minutes Approved & Posted, No Conflict of Interest Noted

Michael D. Cavanaugh assigned as Meeting Secretary, Notice of Meeting properly called

President's Report: Dr. Schiller thanked everyone for their time and participation, conveyed that we remain challenged financially, our legacy will be in producing winning teams and athletes, spoke of a productive meeting with IHF President, Dr. Hassan Moustafa in Washington DC. Dr. Schiller conveyed to Dr. Hassan Moustafa that we needed IHF's help and that while his help was welcomed, we would move forward ourselves. Good exchanges followed and the meeting proved to be successful as will be reported by our CEO.

CEO Report: Will submit an application to the IHF on 12/15 to have three locations involved in proposed **Handball @ Schools** program in 2016. Sites must commit to a three day course for 40-60 teachers involved with players from K-5th grade level. Each site will have an expert available to assist with the IHF funded lecturer. Sites identified for 2016 are Auburn University with Javier Garcia Cuesta and Reita Clanton identified as local experts and Chicago and Minnesota as the other two sites with the local expert being Craig Rot. LA, SF and Ohio expressed interest but it was agreed they needed more time to prepare and in the application, we would list them as 2017 applicant sites. Craig Rot will serve as the coordinator for the project with the IHF going forward.

Meeting with IHF President in DC involved Dr. Harvey Schiller, Javier Garcia Cuesta, Michael Lenard and Michael Cavanaugh. Spoke of the strength and experience in current leadership. Dr. Moustafa pledged significant equipment and educational support, for indoor and BEACH, help with an annual training and competition sparring partner nation once a year for the next four years. He also pledged exploration with contract broadcasters to stimulate the USA market on a regular basis.

2016 USA Open - York, PA., May 13-15, early registrations have been distributed, better flooring being contracted, organizational team in place.

2016 College Nationals - RFPs have been distributed, location TBA in early January, Penn State and Ohio State have expressed early interest.

SELECT: Sponsorship funding and balls have been received for 2015- joint announcement and order link placed on our website as a service to member clubs.

JET SET SPORTS / CO-SPORTS: Sponsorship funding received for 2015, website splash pending quotes and text but due very soon. Dr. Schiller, Dennis and Alan Dizdarevic to consult on ways to optimize return for Rio and Tokyo VIK.

MOLTEN BALLS: IHF sponsored batch of balls delivered following convoluted path to see to their release from customs in Birmingham, Alabama. Balls were ordered from Switzerland, made in Viet Nam and shipped from Thailand. Balls are being inflated to check for any defects.

We need to develop a strategic distribution plan for the inventory of balls we have in Auburn. There were a pre-existing number of balls already in Auburn, Dave Gascon shipped from the closing of the Salt Lake storage area an additional number of balls, we received the shipment of SELECT balls for 2015 sponsorship for the MNT, WNT and for our Open and Nationals and we now have the Molten balls. A plan will be formulated to cover MNT/WNT needs, Auburn's development out-reach plans and we also should think about rewarding clubs who host tournaments and in general new club start-up stimulation. The Board will be briefed on a fully vetted, strategic plan.

USOC: CEO recently informed by USOC that they were making a \$15,000 Special Grant available to USATH for purposes of hiring part-time help for approximately 10 hours per week. USOC has already forward \$5,000 to cover the costs of an outside experienced specialist to oversee a much needed revision of our bylaws under Michael Lenard's direction (both figures are to be placed in an existing restricted USATH bank account and the USOC realizes that the bylaw revision is a project in action). The USOC is funding USATH for Candy's bookkeeping annual fee at the \$2,400 - this comes from NGB Organizational Development. We anticipate a renewal of the Digital Media Agreement (website hosting) at the \$50,000 level in 2016. We anticipate the renewal of the Challenge Grant program at the \$25,000 level. We anticipate the renewal of the Media/Cyber Liability Insurance policy reimbursement for \$2,800. We have an appeal in for a Special Grant to go toward coaching salaries but we have been cautioned that the vision of the USOC for High Performance Funding is laser focused on results in Rio.

COI/COE Forms: Forms have been distributed to the BoD and this is an annual audit recommendation and best practices policy. BoD members are asked to thoroughly complete them and return them to the National Office early in 2016. We need 100% compliance.

BoD Donation Appeal: Harvey Schiller and Michael D. Cavanaugh requested that BoD members consider making some level of donation to USATH as part of our goals to have 100% participation in a donation program and to do it by the end of the year to realize a tax advantage. Also, BOD members were encouraged to seek out donations from their family and friends if possible. No minimal donation amount was mentioned.

Balance and P&L: Candy Marturano had generated year to date documents for the BoD. She had requested that if there were any questions that they should be sent to her for answers. Early reports on the membership rebate policy for clubs are that it is being enthusiastically approached by at least three teams registered for the Northeast Team Handball League. Rosters are reviewed and verified by our membership director; membership fees are collected, Membership Committee Chair issues a request for rebate, Jennie Choi approves and CEO generates a rebate check sent to the Membership Chair for distribution to the respective club.

BEACH Handball: Dennis Berkholtz reported on his effort to put people in place to organize programs in Southern California, Miami and possibly Gulf Shores, AL. He may use WNT and MNT athletes as he develops his Elite Team pool of players. Goal is to try and participate in the Pan Am Championships now confirmed to be in VEN in March. A MAJOR opportunity is in our lap with the announcement that San Diego had been selected as the site of the 2017 World Beach Games. Also, Birmingham, Alabama has been selected as the site of the 2021 World Games and Beach Handball is included in both events and we believe as host nation we will have automatic berths. Dennis expressed the need to have the entire program placed on the website for promotion, education and general awareness purposes for the membership.

AAC Report: Tomuke expressed that David Thompson was a candidate for the USOC position as Athlete Services Coordinator for the Rio Games. ASC provide direct and much needed services to athletes in and out of the village. David Thompson conveyed he was excited about the possibility of being appointed. He also said that he is working with the athletes in Auburn to improve their situation in certain areas.

Foundation Report: Foundation President, Rick Hurst, had generated a report to the BOD on the Foundation's current financial position and a report on the grant activities made in 2015. The majority of funding granted in 2015 went in support of the MNT and WNT with other grants going to support club tournaments and referees. They will know their formula described amount of funding available for 2016 when they receive the annual report from the U.S. Olympic Foundation anticipated in January of 2016. Harvey Schiller thanked Rick and the members of his BOD for their service and dedication related to the protection and management of these funds that originally came from a profit sharing policy through the LAOOC - '84.

Auburn Events: CEO reported that the USATH is in position to host a NORCA event for men in March of 2016. This would be a first multi-nation event USATH has hosted in many years. The PATHF has indicated that we can expect 7-8 teams with the top four qualifying for the MPAC in ARG in June. USATH negotiated a per person per day fee of \$45 (up for \$30 normal fee) which makes it affordable for USATH. LOC is anxious to get started on fund raising and promotion. Javier feels this is an essential event for the MNT to take part in and he is preparing a plan to be within budget and still produce the best possible team from a competitive standpoint. The IHF has asked USATH to host a Global Coaching Certification Course at Auburn in May. This will be a culminating event that follows a first session to take place in Mexico City in February. IHF bears expenses for lecturers and participating coaches' fees and those same coaches pay their air transportation fees. Auburn University leaders are excited to be able to host both the NORCA and IHF Global Coaching Course. Auburn University and School of Kinesiology leaders are working with the Alabama State Games and in June handball will be a showcase event with two age divisions planned for competition.

Website Transition: Maurice Godwin has served as our webmaster for about 18 months and he is resigning effective Dec 31, 2015 to devote more time to his PhD candidacy. Bob Djokovich is working with a website company to see if we have the means to have our website professionally run. The difficulty is that we must work within USOC policies and formats and we also have a special need for the planned Olympic / National Team Alumni site. Bob and CEO are working with the USOC to try and make this doable for all sides.

Adjournment: Harvey Schiller thanked everyone for their time and service. The next BoD meeting was not discussed but we anticipate the next one to be in late January or early February.

Respectfully submitted,

mc



Member, U.S. Olympic Committee