



Board of Directors – Teleconference

March 26, 2018

Minutes

Board Members Present:

Bob Djokovich

Jennie Choi

Sarah Gascon

Attila Agoston

David Thompson – excused, professional responsibilities

David Palmer – excused, professional responsibilities

Alan Dizdarevic – excused, professional responsibilities

Mike McNees – absent

Guest – Kristin Roberts, Auburn Representative

Guest – Dave Gascon

Staff – CEO, Michael D. Cavanaugh

Call to order by Interim President, Bob Djokovich @ 15:34 MT. CEO was appointed as the call Secretary and he took roll call, a quorum was not present, a call for conflict of interest was made and none came forth on any agenda item. The call was by nature an effort to brief the BoD on the flurry of recent IHF activity and as no voting was anticipated, the call went forward.

President's Report: BD indicated that the IHF was taking significant steps in support of the USA and had named Jean Brihault, the former President of the European Handball Federation, to lead the Development of Handball in the USA Project – the exact name has not been finalized as we have seen references being made to the project as 2028 Development. The project as several elements:

- Establish at North/Caribbean Confederation office in the USA, possibly in Colorado Springs, equip it, staff it with a development director (fund raiser), technical director and build and support a website/webmaster
- Nurture a college program in geographies to be named and develop clubs for regional leagues
- Establish IHF Academies in 1-3 regions

- Create a path for the broadcast of handball in the USA on a regular basis through cable/network channels
- Work with LA2028 for potential partnerships and development in the LA region.
- Support the development of USA National Team so as to be highly competitive in the 2028 OG

CEO Report:

- IHF President, Dr. Hassan Moustafa called a meeting of North and Caribbean nations in Mexico City on Feb 26 and 27. 14 nations were there and all agreed to support the formation of a North/Caribbean Continental Confederation.
- A four person working group was appointed to see to the formation of the N/C Confederation that featured a rep from DOM, HAI, USA and MEX – thus Spanish, French and English languages were involved. MC was named to this working group. The goal was to establish a working office in the USA and to staff it once the foundation and organic documents were in place.
- On Feb 28 Hassan Moustafa and MC flew to Colorado Springs and were joined by Jean Brihault and Javier Garcia Cuesta. Promising, positive and productive meetings were held with the USOC, the Mayor of Colorado Springs and Bill Hybl, President of the El Pomar Foundation.
- On March 4, HM, JB and MC flew to Los Angeles for meetings with the senior leadership of LA2028. Michael Lenard joined those meetings and the IHF support for the development of handball in the USA was favorably received and welcomed, especially for possible plans for the Southern California area. On March 4, HM, JB and MC met with a contracted producer with NBC who promised to renew his efforts within the reality program space to keep alive his vision for a handball centered show as he believes handball is a great, deserving and undiscovered sport for the American people. We need a “Champion” to take the lead – universally recognized, respected name!
- On March 4 HM, JB and MC drove south from LA to Oceanside to be a part of the Pan Am Beach Championships where 8 men’s team and 8 women’s team competed for the top three slots to qualify for the 2018 World Beach Championships this summer in RUS. USA men finished with an impressive 3rd place finish and USA women finished 6th.
- Dennis Berkholtz formed an LLC as the organizer of the event and relocated several months before the event from Florida to Oceanside. Dennis’ vision is to stage a Beach Event in Southern California every year to build a base and realize a positive bump from the World Beach Games exposure scheduled for San Diego in 2019. Dennis’ sponsorship and donor goals were not met so the event was staged at minimal levels. The IHF agreed to pay for referees and technical delegates the athletes were all good ambassadors for the event and the Oceanside civic leaders were pleased and would welcome an enhanced event back in the future.
- NorCa for the USA MNT will take place in Mexico City from 4/2 to 4/9. Six nations have entered and top three qualify for the Pan Am Championships in Greenland in June. The MNT is basically self-funding the trip along with a grant from the Foundation to cover room and board while in Mexico.
- College Nationals will be staged @ West Point for men and women & will run from April 20 – 22.

- IHF Trophy – staged in early May in West Dundee, IL (very near Chicago). Craig Rot is the primary organizer. Craig has been selected to coach the USA Youth MNT and Julio Sainz has been selected to coach the USA MJNT. This event is virtually fully funded by the IHF. 2018 is for male athletes while the 2019 event will be for female junior and youth athletes.
- U.S. Open will again be at Myrtle Beach May 17 – 20 for men and women.
- MC explained that as a result of the Sexual Abuse scandal USA Gymnastics is experiencing, all NGBs had to respond to letters from Senators and Congressmen asking for detailed information on our program to manage these types of situations. This was time consuming but deemed essential to be responsive. Michael Lenard was very helpful in helping to prepare USATH's responses.

BD announced that the next meeting would be within 30-35 days. Mike Lenard had sent out a rough guideline toward Board seats and election timelines with a more detailed and specific timeline to follow soon.

BD thanked everyone for their time and called for a motion to adjourn – motion by Sarah, seconded by Jennie, all agreed, adjournment at 16:37.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael D. Cavanaugh



Member, U.S. Olympic Committee
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