

USA Weightlifting Competition Commission  
Videoconference  
Feb 2, 2022

Present: Jim Heim (Independent), Micheal Choi (Board Liaison), Tom Duer (Athlete Rep), Sarabeth Jumper (Athlete Rep), Joaquin Chavez, Anna Martin.  
Guests Present: Travis Cooper (Former Athlete Rep).  
Staff Present: Phil Andrews (CEO), Pedro Meloni (Dir Events).

1. Introductions

Jim Heim introduced himself to the group as the new Independent, and everyone else gave brief introductions.

2. P&L 2021 and 2022

Pedro Meloni and the CEO gave a brief overview of outcomes from 2021, showing essentially a break even P&L for the Events business, while 2022 is budgeted as much the same. The CEO explained that he had challenged the Events business unit to be contributing money back into the mission of the organization, without counting on Sponsorship money. Until 2019, we considered Sponsorship income part of events, however because our Sponsorship is generally not driven by events only event-only income (for example, vendor booths) are now considered part of the Events business unit. It was explained that historically, our events have been considered a service activity and remain considered so for the most part.

3. New Production Proposal for 2022

The staff presented a new layout proposal for the review of the Commission, to open up the warm up area to viewing from spectators. Done in the right way, the feedback was generally positive with some concerns raised around ensuring that coaches can get between platforms to coach athletes, minimizing athlete distraction and for broadcast, making sure that we are conscious of human mistakes from TOs especially less experienced TOs.

We also discussed our #1 cost center for events, AV, and while some ideas were talked about, it was generally agreed that current AV provision is the way that we ought to continue.

Finally making sure that media are under control in this new format was raised.

ACTION: Staff to proceed conscious of these items for Las Vegas.

ACTION: Staff to use Tokyo Strong Camp T&Cs for media for National event passes.

4. 2022 Event Status

The staff shared latest registration numbers for the NAOS 1 and a brief overview of Las Vegas, Calgary and Atlanta as well as expected Covid-19 processes. There was also the flag that just now Canada has a Vaccine mandate on the border.

## 5. 2023 Events

The staff walked through the calendar for 2023, and expected destinations for Nationals Week (Colorado Springs) and for the current conversations for the Finals.

A discussion was held about strategy around cities, and potentially creating a home for Nationals Week on a permanent basis (Colorado Springs and Las Vegas) and creating a “Road to Las Vegas” or similar. Various views and points, both for and against, were raised. A further discussion was held about the need to balance size of city, and the financial agreement for the organization.

## 6. Local Meets

Local meets are currently a focus for the USA Weightlifting membership team, a short discussion was held with some valuable points raised around using BARS for local meet registrations.

Some of the challenges with technology were raised for local events, solutions including a “meet in a box” concept were discussed.

ACTION: Local Meet Registration via BARS explanation to be sent out by the Staff.

ACTION: Reminder that the fee is \$4 not \$7, there appears there was a period of confusion on this,

ACTION: Staff to look into the Event in a Box Concept.

## 7. Brainstorm & AOB

The need to explain the NAO Series concept and what it is about (the integration of our community) needs to be communicated. One member raised a proposal to change Nationals Week to be integrated in a similar way, most felt the Nationals need to be different as they are now.

The Commission was encouraged to continue to think creatively and bring ideas forward as we try to evolve our events again in 2022.