

USWOA EXECUTIVE BOARD

TELECONFERENCE

JULY 9, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 PM EST

USWOA Executive Board Members Present: Rick Tucci, John Heyman, Jerry Kuntz, Bill Stecklein, Casey Goessl, Tom Kuisle, Toby Tobiasson, Sue Hesser, De Heyman, Tim Pierson, Sammy Julian, Zach Errett, LeeAnn Johnson and Chris Curtis.

Members Absent: Danny Blackshear.

Others Present: Derek Sikora, USAW Representative; Pat Smith, Athlete Liaison

Presidents Welcome: Rick Tucci welcomed everyone, introduced Pat Smith and set the agenda for the meeting.

Fargo Video Review Procedure: Zach Errett reported preparations are ready for video review including identification of jury officials, Flo training scheduled and documentation ready for the Friday training at 5:00 PM in the Fargodome. Derek reported 207 pairing and mat officials have signed up for Fargo which translates to approximately 175 mat officials as of this AM.

Referee Code of Conduct: Pat Smith and Rick Tucci talked about the need for developing guidance for conduct related to officials and how they are perceived. Pat said athletes spend many hours preparing for their matches and they want mat officials to be at their best for matches as well. Tim Pierson expressed concern about social media introducing false accusations whether it comes from the public, athletes or other officials. Bill Stecklein commented that as far as he knows the total concern comes from one Snapchat from one incident in North Carolina but has been implied as involving many other events. Rick mentioned that these situations involve athletes, coaches and officials. Rick will add this as an agenda item for the fall meeting.

Flo Issues: The Board engaged in a discussion of concerns involving Flo and live microphones on mats, announcers using first and last names of individual mat officials and the possible addition of a mat official to Flo broadcasts. This would ensure more accurate rule explanations and better explanations of mechanics used by the officiating crews.

Ethics Committee Issues: Rick Tucci reiterated that unless it is a Safe Sport concern, USAW wants USWOA to handle all ethics issues. There has been a misconceptions that USAW was taking over all ethics and Safe Sport activities. Rick asked about bringing underage relatives into rooms at events. Tom Kuisle and Toby Tobiasson reported they engaged in a three way phone call with Tony Black before Kids Nationals regarding this. The current position is that the person bringing their underage relative to the event must pay for half the room and no other non-relative will be staying in the room. The LOC must have a sufficient number of rooms available before allowing an official to billet a family member in their room.

Fargo and Other Tournament Concerns: Rick Tucci said better security is needed on the floor at Fargo and other events to control spectators, coaches and athletes. Rick will talk to Pete Isais from USAW and the LOC to address overall security. Tim Pierson reported that mat chairmen and video review areas in Fargo are blocked off from entry to all but those authorized to be there.

OEP Updates: John Heyman talked about this year's OEPs and the need to discuss subject areas before scheduling in the future.

Pairers trained on Flo: Rick Tucci asked if there are enough Flo trained pairers to be assigned to events. De Heyman said all events this year have been covered with a trained pairer and a trainee to ensure adequate numbers of Flo trained pairers.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM EST.