

USWRA Leadership Meeting: April 7, 2025

Next Scheduled Meeting: May 7, 2025

Present:

Bob Lopez – Commissioner
Amy Bohn – Classification, Policy & Procedure
Gwen Debly – Secretary
Meagan Rowe – USAWR
Christopher Newman – Associate Head Classifier
Marianne Duda – Head of Referees

Absent:

Steve Kearley – President
Mary Kiolbasa – Head of Classification
Keith Newerla – VP1
Kerin Banfield – Referee
Sarah Leonard – Treasurer
Daniel Curtis – VP2

Motion to approve March minutes:

- Gwen motioned to approve, Bob seconded

Secretary (Gwen Debly):

- Eastern semi-finals went well, truly seamless in Gwen's view
- Was able to livestream both of the courts
 - Largest complaint was it was hard to read the score, what quarter it was, etc.
 - Tried to update once a quarter on Sunday with that information
- Is waiting to hear from Portland to hear if they will have 2 iPads and tripods so she can do that there as well
- Has all of the apparel from Oscar Mike and is trying to offload all of that.
 - She did find success in sending out emails to all athletes who were attending and is willing to do that again.
- Registration for Low Point Season is officially open, but it has not been "announced" yet.

Treasurer (Jacob Couch, interim effective immediately):

- Will be taking over for Sarah effective immediately
- Has also put his name in to run for this position at this year's AGM
- Have started the process to have him taken over as primary at Synovus
 - Once that is done, we will add Bob as a secondary
- Working with the accountant and thinks we will have to file another extension
 - Thinks we may need to find another firm who does not put us on the backburner

Lakeshore/USAWR (Meagan Rowe):

- Just finished camp this week with a heavy emphasis on preparing for Japan

- Leave for Japan on the 14th
- Have 7 classification spots there
- Next camp is May 13 – 19 and Low Point will be joining at the end
- Update on the classification regarding one of the potential USA athletes – spoke to Jacque and asked specifically about Anthony’s ability to be in front of a panel
 - Says he needs more information from Greg Ungerer to find out more about what happened in 2016
 - Said if it was up to him he **might** treat it like a protest, but he wants to make sure he finds out the history before making any decisions

Classification (Amy Bohn & Christopher Newman):

- Have 3 classifiers who are willing to come to Nationals to do Sport Class Assignments
 - Bob and Steve spoke to Michelle on Friday to start coordinating that
 - Bob will have the conversation with Mike Delancey about making sure they have the space they need
 - Believe there will be 4 athletes who will need to be seen
 - Christopher asked if there was any conversation about them receiving the paperwork used at semi-finals for “classifying” new athletes
 - Bob said that paperwork was not based on athletes playing, so it may not have a lot of information that the classifiers would need but we are happy to share it with them
 - Christopher said they thought it would be nice for them to be able to see it so we could see how close the coaches were in classing their athletes
 - Gwen reminded that those “classifications” are NOT carrying over and each athlete will be starting with a clean slate
 - Amy also said she would be interested in seeing those forms to see how that went.
 - Only one player out of 4 was not a unanimous decision.
 - In order not to bias anyone, Gwen will wait to send out the information
- Amy has the master list and she has sent Bob the list and he will be sending it out so teams have it
- Founding documents are pretty set, now working on other material and will most likely have legal counsel look at them before they are finalized
- Amy asked if there was going to be a review of proposals and that meeting was held last Wednesday, only one proposal that would have any bearing on classification and it is one we have seen several years

Referees (Marianne Duda):

- Nothing to report

Commissioner (Bob Lopez):

- Western Semi-finals are this weekend, then the Competition Committee will meet and Bob will finalize the schedule and send out to the teams attending Nationals
- Awards nominations deadline was last Monday. They are out for a vote currently.
- Met last Wednesday to review proposals. They will hopefully go out by the end of the week to teams.

President (Steve Kearley, via notes):

- Thank you again to Jacob for stepping up to fill the treasurer position effective March 19th
- All old Oscar Mike stuff is here and we are trying to get that offloaded at a large discount.
- New storefront is officially open
- Dates confirmed for Low Point:
 - Grand Rapids: June 14 & 15
 - Houston: July 12 & 13
 - Sept 12th – 14th: Rise will host Nationals
- 2 upcoming camps:
 - Grand Rapids: June 16 & 17
 - Houston: July 14 & 15

VP2 (Daniel Curtis, via notes):

- Is having some difficulty connecting with Mike Delancey about tables for sponsors at Nationals
- Question regarding a USA kit for auction: Both Bob and Meagan confirmed that would be coming
- Spinergy auction is officially open. There have been no bids. Fear is that we just auctioned a pair and have other things to be auctioning in the coming weeks.
 - Christopher asked if there had been any thought about making it a raffle?
 - Gwen said that was a great idea and something we can look at in next week's meeting.