

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: May 11, 2023

Next Planned Meeting: June 1, 2023

Present:

Michael Klonowski – Executive Director

Marianne Duda – Head of Referees

Amy Bohn – Head of Classification

Jen Allred – Lakeshore/USAWR

Sid Christain – Treasurer

Michael Cottingham – VP1

Bob Lopez – Commissioner

Mary Kiolbasa – Classifier

Daniel Curtis – VP2

Kerin Banfield – Referee Representative

Dan Caldwell - Secretary

Lakeshore/USAWR (Jen)

- Camp started yesterday
- A little unique as Columbian team is coming in and they will play some games and allow both teams to get some training time in
- Thank you to everyone for supporting the coaching grant. Meagan Rowe is working on getting coaches slotted in to spots. They will be sending out an evaluation after to be sure that the format is working for everyone involved.
- Canada will be coming in to do something similar in June.
- This is a way to help maximize the dollars and get to see some other teams without incurring the costs.
- Thanks to Bob and Marianne for assistance in getting officials

Classification (Amy):

- Please add Mary Kiolbasa to the leadership email and text
- Nationals was successful – needed to see 45, 6 did not attend, 7 were protests sent in ahead of time (1 was sick, but got one added at the tournament) – saw a total of 40 athletes. Amy was very happy with that outcome.
- Active in the Safety & Bylaws committees – need to work on sanctioning tournaments next year in order to stay in compliance with international
 - Still questions regarding the one-arm drive
 - Would like to speak to Greg and others higher to make sure all the players internationally are on board
- Asked Jen to let her know if she needs classifiers at any of the things USAWR is planning
- Goals for offseason
 - Will add associate head of classification
 - Will get with Mike to add data to Google Drive
 - Working on continuing to improve communication throughout the league and with athletes

- Would like to schedule town halls over the summer that can be hosted, recorded and posted on the website
- Sid signed and sent back the info for the database – got a return response about a retainer but has not gotten any other info
- Possibility to meet with all the teams again like last year to set up tournament dates? Mike K said yes, and would work to have USA present so there are no conflicts of events

Referees (Marianne, with Kerin assisting):

- Please continue to send people who are interest in reffing to Marianne
 - Mike C asked when the people he sent would hear from someone as they are super excited! Kerin wasn't sure but they are having conversations about possibly hosting a summer clinic.
- When do you want report for AGM?
 - Shoot for June 1st for all reports, which gives at least a week's time to chase down anything we don't have
 - All old items should be on the drive to reference

VP1 (Mike C):

- Bylaw revisions are coming in, still missing one or two. Will screen at that time. Then will send to Dan as PDF to send out to membership.
 - Everyone was receptive to the revisios
 - Mike C said one thing we should consider voting on as a bylaw is that we will recognize gender as seen by IPC – Amy said we should put that together quickly and get it in last minute for this year's AGM
- Safety Committee
 - Would like to establish a minor policy consistent with rules in use by SafeSport
 - Any minor at a tournament must room with a parent, another minor or alone
 - Rule of three: If there is a minor at a tournament, there must be 3 people at all times when in contact
 - Recommend putting this together and making it official
 - Request any facility who hosts a tournament to have an AED
 - Amy said there are resources if we know ahead of time that we can help attain one
 - Bob said one thing to point out is knowing where they are
 - Concussion protocol
 - Recommended that each tournament submit their plan or protocol on concussion safety evaluation
 - There was concern by some on the safety call that some may balk at that due to liability issues
 - Is this a policy that we will be able to police?
 - Jen said they have the same conversations often, and said with sanctioning there is a requirement to have a safety plan. Also said that perhaps we call it a procedure this year as opposed to a policy as it gives us more leeway.

- Do we need to send out a survey to the membership to see who is medically trained and who would be willing to be trained to screen for concussions?
- Mary is currently putting together a Policy & Procedure for screening.
- Mike C asked that Dan put something out in an email blast asking above question (we can put together at the beginning of season to send)
 - Additional request that hand sanitizers, wipes and gloves available at all tournaments
 - Make sure incident forms are readily available at each tournament
 - Can an insurance rep attend the AGM to explain what is covered and what is not covered? Sid said getting someone there would be hard, but that he could present a document and cover it himself.
 - Sid will send info to Dan so it can be included in AGM packet
 - Will cover all of the above at the AGM
 - Amy chimed in and said there was also still conversation regarding moving toward having SafeSport in place this year
 - Amy asked Jen if the classifiers would have to have it prior to attending training at Lakeshore and it depends on if a team is there or not.

VP2 (Daniel)

- All grants have been awarded
- Thanks to Mike K for sending out the post-event survey
- Mike C asked about representatives for each of the divisions. Mike C recommended 1 – 10, 11 – 25, then 26 and beyond
- Bob asked if the awards of the grants had been published and it was on Social, but has not been on the web so Mike K will put it on there
 - Bob said that Akron still owes a fine, so they should not receive their award until we get payment
- Bob will follow up with Akron and Chicago for their fines
- Mike K asked if Daniel had connected with the refs. Short answer is no, but long answer is that he is trying to get them to work together with Sportable.
 - There was some confusion about that – Daniel thought it was one grant to Sportable and the refs together, but it was two separate grants
 - Daniel will send an email to the referees
- Daniel asked what a referee clinic looked like – do they need athletes?
 - Marianne had no microphone so will provide info later
 - The format has changed
 - This money will be used not just for new refs, but also to develop current referees

Treasurer (Sid)

- Sent financial report to the board
- Nothing stands out – all routine
- Has executed the contract for the database
- Have paid some of the grants and that will show up in the next financial report

- The AGM financial report will look a little different since we voted to change the fiscal year to end March 31st
- Mike C asked Sid how he thought we looked financially. He said he thinks we are financially sound, we don't spend money wrecklessl, we have the revenue streams that we have and there is a reserve fund of \$21,000 that hasn't been touched. He does think that may change as time goes on (perhaps hiring someone to help manage the funds we have would helpful in time)
- Dan asked if Sid had received any offline payments for Low Point and only WWAR has paid (one more still to pay)
- Amy asked if Phyllis's money was still set aside. He said not necessarily set aside, but the amount is known and it has not been touched.

Secretary (Dan)

- Low Point current registration:
 - 9 teams
 - 54 athletes
- Dan asked for clarification – AGM will be the board reports in addition to Steve Kenny's from the Competition Committee. NO RAC reports.

Executive Director (Mike K)

- D3 trophy was presented
- D2 trophy will be sent to Dan for repair
- Social Media very active during Nationals
- Something that came up was a "transfer portal" as a way to help coordinate people who would like to transfer – doesn't think it is something we should promote
- National poll results:
 - Negatives revolved around transportation
 - Hotel and facility were ranked highly
 - Food was pretty even across the board
 - 50% of the people who responded didn't use transportation
- Coaches training in person – there will be 3 coaches at each session. Akron has asked to attend even though there are not spots available and they would foot the bill. Mike K spoke to Joe and he says it is full and does not think there is space. Jen agreed and said she was happy to keep a waiting list for anyone who did not make the list in case anyone couldn't make it.
- Shirts were delivered
- Numotion Foundation has not responded to the grant we were asked to reapply for.
- Auction raised about \$8,000
- Move United accepted us as an affiliate organization
 - Said they may have access to insurance that is less expensive than what we currently have
- Golf Outing planning is in full swing. Currently looking for sponsors and golfers.
- Still not making any process with Vesco and hoping we can get the equipment committee going again.
- Working on promo video using footage throughout the season.
- Several grants sent out the past month.

- Reached out to several energy drink companies. Mike C was looking at it on a larger scale, not just for individual sponsorships
- Bob asked about the comparison of money raised this year in the auction compared to last year and this year was about \$2000 less.
- Bob asked for numbers on the golf tournament and Mike K said they were pretty abysmal right now. He has not exhausted all of the options in the area, and is hoping in the next couple of weeks will bring some traction.
- Mary said she wasn't sure if it is possible to get into her organization since they offer training for golfers, but can look into it.
- Amy recommended the business that makes the bands for the USA team as a possible sponsor (Whoops). Mike K said the data to date hasn't been that great for W/C users at this time. Amy would like to know why, so we can use the resources we have at UNLV in order to get better and clean data. Jen said that figuring out the reasons is something that is an issue with several of the platforms
- Mary said another sponsor idea might be the Abilities Expo.

Commissioner (Bob)

- Nationals went well – thanks to everyone who played a part
 - Reminded about the importance of completing the incident reports
- Two bids for Nationals 2024 – will be doing site visits. Going to WWAR next week, still waiting on dates from Oscar Mike. Hoping to make a decision by AGM.
- Once the Nationals host is set, Bob will start working on semi-final hosts
- Low Point Season Nationals – what support can the league give for the Low Point Nationals this summer?
 - Bob thinks it would be a good idea to pay to get the referees there
 - Daniel agrees and thinks that is fair
 - No determination about an amount, would like to see what registration brings in
 - The consensus was that committing what is brought in by registrations is fine, but nothing above that
 - Amy said Classifiers will not be available this year for the season as they are dedicating their time to training
- Bob said something else he has been working on is getting information from recent semi-final hosts what the cost was to host the tournament so he can provide that info to prospective hosts