



USASF Board of Directors Meeting

June 9, 2021

Via Video Conference

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ali Stangle, Ann Lehrman, Brad Habermel, Debbie Love, Lindsay Stephens, DO, Jeff Fowlkes, Justin Carrier, Kathy Penree, Melanie Berry, Mike Burgess, Nicole Graham, Peter Lezin, Steve Peterson

ABSENT:

Catherine Morris, Happy Hooper, John Newby, Kristen Rosario, Tina Galdieri

GUESTS:

Amy Clark, Karen Wilson, Lynn Singer

AGENDA

Vote to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting

The minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on CDIP and All Star Worlds

- The Board needs to decide if it is going to uphold the EP membership agreement that stipulates they will not participate in or support an event with "Worlds" in its name. The purpose is so that the title "Worlds" will not be diluted, much like "National Championship" is diluted by the sheer number of competitions with "National" in the title.
- It was noted that the intent is not to prevent people from going to great events, but the word "Worlds" sets us apart. Also noted was that Federated countries are permitted to only attend one World championship. It's in everyone's best interest that countries don't have to "pick" one world championship over another.
- Further conversation supported the USASF defending the exclusive use of name "Worlds," and pointed out that all member EPs are now able to offer a path to Worlds for their customers.

New membership term: membership cost, benefits, adult age*, rollout

TNG is recommending that an adult athlete's age should be established at 18 during the year 2021. Athletes who are 18 years old or older would undergo background screening and SafeSport training, just like coaches.

A motion to accept TNG's recommendation was made, seconded and unanimously voted to approve.

New Business:

- Due to Kathy's appointment as Interim Chair of the Board of Directors, Becky Herrera has been appointed Interim Chair of the Connection.
- Ali will assume Jim Chadwick's voting seat on the Board of Directors. Kathy will retain her previous voting seat on the Board.
- Kathy and Ali are looking at all committees to determine if they are all still necessary in the ways as originally intended.
- Kathy is reviewing all USASF contracts.

- The catastrophic insurance policy for athletes has increased from 2M to 5M. Tiny Novice athletes must be 3 years old as of June 1 and may be on a team. Mike will inform the Rules Committee.

OTHER:

Ali proposed an idea of offering "protected" divisions at Worlds for cheer clubs that have just one Worlds team, or one club team and non-tumbling team at Worlds. Discussion included:

- Concern that we're diluting divisions at Worlds.
- Question as to whether we would be trying to give more teams a chance to attend Worlds or to help non-tumbling teams? Ali confirmed that the majority of applicant bids this year was for non-tumbling teams.
- Concern that gyms lose athletes after Worlds if their teams don't place well and that it weakens their ability to attract new athletes. Athletes either go to another gym or lose interest in All Star.
- Opening divisions could open new paths for participation and potentially grow the sport.
- Consensus is to add this conversation to the National Meeting and promote that the concept will be discussed in an effort to attract more attendance.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: Friday, July 23 at the National Meeting in Charlotte, NC