



## **USAR Board of Directors Meeting**

**Monday, August 28, 2023**

**5:30 pm MT**

**Videoconference via Zoom**

**Called to order by President Stewart Solomon at 5:35 pm MT**

Quorum was achieved; advance notice given of the meeting; directors were reminded to recuse themselves on topics that are a conflict of interest. Vice President Terry Rogers delivered reminders about social media and confidentiality agreement completion.

**Attending:** Todd Boss, Jake Bredenbeck (Athlete Representative), Steve Czarnecki, Mike Grisz (Executive Director), Michelle Key (Secretary/Athlete Representative), Danielle Maddux (Athlete Representative), Erika Manilla (Athlete Representative), Tony Prater, Sandy Rios (Treasurer), Terry Rogers (Vice President), Stewart Solomon (President), Slemo Warigon

**Not attending:** Maurice Miller

### **Approval of Minutes**

- March, April, May, June, July will be sent out for electronic approval
- Ensure the website is up to date with quarterly posting of minutes

### **Executive Committee Update (Stewart Solomon)**

- Reignition of the Fundraising Committee. Compiling past donation list.
- US Junior Camp – Junior Head Coach Tim Baghurst reported a successful experience for the athletes at the USOPC Training Center in Colorado Springs.
- History of Racquetball – methods to keep the history intact and updated
- Lynn Stephens -- Referee update
- Marketing firms

### **Executive Director Update (Mike Grisz)**

- Annual audit beginning soon; provided progress update
- R2 Contract has been renewed
- US OPEN
  - Losing courts in Minnesota -- possibly down to eight courts at each of the venues – difficult to host major events there moving forward
  - Looking into other locations, e.g., Denver
  - Creating sponsorship packages
- National Singles/Doubles 2024 (Indoor National Championships)
  - Last event in Tempe at ASU due to reduction of number of courts
  - Considered to be the major USAR event for next year
  - Working with National Events Committee to create a memorable event
- U.S. Team Challenge
  - Article in the August newsletter and each going forward
  - \$10,000 has been raised so far

- Social media boost – involving athletes and coaches
- Team Dovetail – committed to USAR support in 2024
- SafeSport/USOPC Audit
  - Event audit currently in process
  - Reminder to stay up to date with SafeSport training and background checks
- National events are on R2 and ready to accept entries
- Referee Test
  - Using Class Marker as a platform to host the test
  - Tests and videos are currently being updated
- Jonathan Greenberg
  - Traveling to the Colorado Spring office
  - Packing up the medals to send out to the National events
- Exhibition Court
  - Moving it out of storage to use the court for an event
  - Need to check liability/insurance
- Hall of Fame
  - What will induction look like moving forward
  - How will the awards be presented

### **Finance Update (Sandy Rios)**

*Note: A preliminary budget was forwarded to the Board as a pre-read prior to the August meeting.*

The Finance Committee met on August 21, 2023, with major focus on creation of the 2024 budget.

The 2023 budget was used as a basis for reference. Known contractual budget items are being continued at current rates.

Main items for consideration were to set a realistic goal for income to be generated through contributions with the potential of elevated costs for U.S. Team travel for the Pan American Racquetball Championships and IRF World Racquetball Championships.

The Board discussed the possibility of hiring a paid executive director and what a timeline could feasibly be.

The committee recommends projection of all national events as break even, although the group remains hopeful that some profit will be realized.

The possibility of a 2024 US OPEN will be contingent upon major corporate sponsorships.

### **One44 Group Proposal (Mike Grisz)**

- Marketing deck needs improvement
  - Funds required to update the marketing deck
- Josh Gross (referral) -- Marketing and Fundraising professional
- Proposal
  - Proposed cost \$25,000 on a four-year payback structure

**Motion by Stewart Solomon to approve the use of restricted funds to initiate work proposed by the One44 group for market research with the intent of paying the money back to said fund \$500/month**  
**Seconded by Terry Rogers**

**Discussion: Questions surrounding restricted fund usage; next steps if proposal accepted; end goal; exploration of other resources; additional review time requested; requested presentation to the Board; desired ROI impact analysis**

**Vote: Did not pass**

**Fundraising Discussion (Stewart Solomon)**

Compile previous donor list (2019-2022 -- assign Board Members' names to the donor list to reach out

**New Business**

Strategic Plan discussion – explore utilizing the score card that was created previously.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, September 25, 2023

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Danielle Maddux to adjourn**

**Seconded by Slemo Warigon**

**Adjourned at 7:15 pm MT**