



Speed Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm

In Attendance:

- Patty Leazier
- Mikey Ratliff
- Robin Pendergast
- Kelly Springer (dropped off midway through call)
- Brian Talley
- Sammy Johnson
- Darian Orozco
- Tosha Hill
- Jay Ingram (joined 15 mins late)
- Erin Jackson (joined 5 mins late)

Missing

- Deb Alpers
- McKenzie Browne

Declaration of Conflicts

- Patty. 2 trying out for World Team including her child, associated with Bont, former staff member, hosting large event in US, board member of USARollerSports
- Tosha – Official at upcoming events, World Skate official
- Mikey – coach of athlete trying out for team, owns a skate company that does business in US and sponsors athletes trying out for team, previous world team staff member, planning on applying for Team USA staff.
- Kelly – coach of athlete trying out for team, owns a skate company that does business in US and sponsors athletes and events, past staff member.
- Darian – athlete trying out for team, owner of skate company that does business in US, husband is a coach.
- Brian – will be applying to be an official at indoor and outdoor Nationals, represent different skate companies, spouse will be trying out for Team USA
- Sammy – coach and parent of athlete trying out for world team.
- Erin – US Speedskating board, may try out for Team USA
- Jay – former world team staff member, organizer of camps, and is coaching practice during the meeting, athletes trying out team.
- Robin – coach of athletes that will be trying out for Team USA

March Clinic

- Weber's Skateway clinic March 15 – 17.
- Facebook clinic and ODN promoted together to maximize numbers.
- Need budget and application for ODN developed.
- Deb female leader/Kelly male leader, Mikey co-lead.
 - Volunteers welcome, Robin will reach out to all that filled out the interest form.

- All leaders and volunteers will make own travel arrangements, arrive day before, leave last day or day after
- Meeting morning of 15th, with limited time may not do race on Sunday, and just do morning and afternoon session.
- Kelly/Sammy will put together agenda.

Team USA Staff Applications

- Will get the application designed to match the matrix and get out asap.
- Cover letter for all and interview for finalists.
- Deadline 1 month to get applications back.

World Skate Updates

- If any World Skate distances change, that would affect our Team USA Tryouts distances/formats.
- We will work on an update to our selection process that takes that into consideration.
- Let membership know about list of races that can be run at Worlds.

2025 Team USA Selection Process

- Sammy will put together an outline with initial thoughts on qualifying for a residency, and then selecting Team USA from residency.
- Check on Indy track – would be great to have points opportunities at multiple tracks.

Other

- Suggestions made to David Weber to eliminate indoor from his competition to shorten the length of the event. Opinion seems to be to keep both indoor and outdoor.
- Road course for ODN needs to be secured asap.
- Beginner event at Nationals brought up again, to help with the financial impact of no longer having Novice Nationals. If we have a separate event the day after Nationals, the skaters will be able to also participate in relays.
- Consider developing a USARS marathon series. Something like that could be huge, to help both USARS and Team USA.
- National Team criteria needs tightening up – too many Jr/Sr athletes end up in top 4 in sprints and top 6 in endurance. We need another method where we don't have to figure out how to select. Pan Am Qualifiers, Team USA Qualifiers, then whoever has the most points?

Patty made a motion to change the national team criteria to take the Pan Am Qualifiers, Team USA Qualifiers, then highest points, Sammy seconded, no further discussion was needed, motion passed unanimously.

- Relay cards – would like to consider having a separate relay card for those with partners that don't have anyone to skate with. Super teams are already happening. For relay cards, both coaches would have to agree. Pilot program to try it out? Another charge for a relay card for each person that wants to relay outside their own team, and do they need one for each relay with each different team? Possibly will

work for 4 person relays, but don't want to displace people on the existing team with a faster person from another team. Exhaust people from your team first, before moving outside for relays. How would we enforce that? It seems to encourage super teams because it's not enforceable. Deadlines would need to be firm in order not to create havoc with National entries. People can change teams up to 30 days before Nationals (used to be 30 days before Regionals – maybe want to change to 60 days before Nationals)?

- We need to clean up national records... a few years of results went missing, and Jay/Tosha have paperwork with records.

Tosha made a motion to adjourn, Patty seconded. Adjourned 8:36pm ET.