



USAW Masters Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 12, 2026

Platform: Zoom

Minutes from [previous meetings](#)

Participants

Present: Holly Arrow, Gwen Chamberlin, Suzy Sanchez, Tom Sroka, Bob Takano, JP Nicoletta (staff liaison), Mike Choi (board liaison)

Absent: Aimee Everett, Travis Cooper

1. Call to order:

- **Time:** 7:03 pm MT
- **Facilitator:** JP Nicoletta
- **Conflict of Interest Disclosures:**
 - HA: Masters Athlete
 - GC: Masters Athlete and Coach
 - TC: Masters Athlete
 - SS: Masters Athlete and Coach
 - TS: Coach
 - BT: None

2. Updates:

- JP updated on open items from the prior meeting:
 - The Masters Hall of Fame page and application were updated to clarify when points are available for placement in the Masters and Open divisions; an individual can only use the higher point total as opposed to both.
 - Best lifter by age category confirmed for the 2027 Masters Nationals.
 - Records, no change to policy of reducing open standards by 5kg.
 - 2027 event calendar released. 2027 Masters Nationals confirmed for Richmond, VA and 2027 Virus Weightlifting Finals will be paired with a UMWF event in Puerto Rico.

3. Discussion Topics:

- **UMWF Worlds Puerto Rico Event Update:** MC spoke briefly about the 2027 UMWF event in Puerto Rico. Building on feedback from the Daytona, Council recommended USAW/UMWF incorporate more international-championship elements into the 2027 event. Suggestions included an official opening and closing ceremony, clearer medal-ceremony, introducing athletes by national affiliation over USAW club affiliation, and event merchandise (T-shirts). Council also requested pins be made available at the UMWF event, consistent with their popularity at recent competitions and in general. MC acknowledged the feedback for consideration in event planning.
- **Masters Hall of Fame Points Tracking:** Council raised the possibility of an automated points-tracking feature, modeled on an existing NGB using Sport80. The goal would be to reduce manual MHOF point tracking by athletes. Noted as a potential long-term system project.
- **Masters-Specific Coaching Education Content:** HA raised that Level 1 coaching certification materials do not currently include age-specific (Masters) content. TS noted he has developed

independent Masters-specific coaching material and offered to share it with USAW. Council also noted a broader trend across NGBs toward supplemental/CEU-style pathway content (Masters, women's, para) outside core certification tracks. JN suggested TS presenting a Masters-focused monthly coach chat as an interim option.

- **Local & WSO Championships Masters Guidance:** Still pending from prior meetings. JN is holding this item until a consolidated guidance document can be prepared rather than issuing partial guidance to WSOs.
- **Next Meeting:** The regularly scheduled date (September 9) could conflict with Virus 2 travel. An alternate date of September 16 was discussed. Council agreed to hold September 9 open and revisit closer to the date if needed.

4. Adjournment

- Time: 7:42 pm MT