

USA Taekwondo

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, September 4, 2025

Attendance:

P = Present; L = Late Attendance; A = Absent

P	Carol Lewis, Chair & Independent Director	P	Ron Southwick, Vice Chair & Coach Director
P	John Holloway, Referee Director	P	Alex Lee, AAC Rep
P	Bongseok Kim, Board Secretary & Affiliated Organization Director	P	Ara White, AAC Chair
P	David Turgeon, AAC Athlete Rep	P	Daniel Chun, Independent
P	Mitch Sprengelmeyer, Independent	P	Kathy Do, AAC Rep
A	Tom Nwachuku, Independent	A	Stephanie Alger, Independent
P	Hannah Keck, AAC Rep Alternate		

Also Present:

Steve McNally, John Seiber, Christine Strong Simmons, and Stephen Lambdin.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order

- Roll Call/Quorum were confirmed.
- Conflict of interest declarations
Mr. McNally asked the Board if they had any conflict of interest to declare.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Review and approval of minutes from the last meeting:
The Board of Directors approved the June 2025 meeting minutes.

3. Chair's Opening Remarks:

Carol Lewis, Chair:

Ms. Lewis welcomed the Board and remarked on members' meeting in person, some for the first time, in Daytona Beach, FL. The Board of Directors then introduced themselves to each other. The Chair mentioned the U.S. Season Final Competition which would take place over the weekend.

4. USATKD Reports

Steve McNally, CEO Update:

Mr. McNally stated that the USA Taekwondo had a strong year financially and that the National Championships, with over 4000 participants, ran smoothly. He highlighted a new Spectator Code of Conduct to

ensure safety and respect for all members. A new platform will be available to members that will allow for real-time reporting of safety concerns. The poomsae scoring situation at the National Championships was outlined for the Board. USA Taekwondo will continue to communicate how to protest in coach education courses, infographics and via a link to the website Rules document in various emails and newsletters. In addition, updated processes for the CSB will be publicized and will take much of the decision-making process off referees.

Mr. McNally highlighted the medals won in Korea, the Grand Prix Challenge and that the World Championships are coming up. The new partnership with Fastbreak AI will result in an automated ranking system. A potential banking and payment processing partnership is possible soon. The USOPC and Federal Government mandated transgender policy has driven some intense online debate. The organization is in a good place with a positive 2024 Audit and a positive financial picture.

High Performance Update, Stephen Lambdin:

- USA took 2nd overall at the Muju Grand Prix Challenge, just missing out on 1st place, with 2 gold and 1 bronze. This is an improvement on the Charlotte GP (1 gold, and 2 bronze).
- Talent ID - goal was finding 2 athletes worth investing in. Now we are bringing in 5 full time athletes to the program, as well as having named a developmental squad of 8 athletes that the Academy will work with leading into 2026 US Open and beyond.
- Youth Olympic Games format for qualification is new this cycle. Now we are being told in advance what divisions USA will be given quotas for Dakar next year.
- National Sparring Coaching Academy is getting great feedback. We plan to open enrollment again at the end of the year, with the plan to replicate the program model for Poomsae starting next year.
- End of the year major competitions for High Performance are World Championships, Bangkok GP Challenge, WT Women's Championships, and the U21 Worlds.
- High Performance Allocation Grant for 2026 from the USOPC is expected soon. Heavy emphasis in the plan was placed on investing in the U21 age group as a target for Brisbane 2032.

Operations, Events and Finance Update – Christine Strong Simmons

Christine presented a positive financial report, highlighting a strong cash position heading into the third quarter, due to strong attendance/ticket sales at the National Championships and lower High-Performance expenses. The 2024 Audit was positive with no issues and no recommendations. A proposal was submitted to PATU to host the September 2026 President's Cup. The 2027 Event locations and dates will be announced in February 2026. A new club tier system will be implemented in the fourth quarter through early 2026 to include gold, silver and bronze levels with associated increased benefits and recognition for various categories.

5. AAC Update

The AAC provided information to the Board and new Independent Directors regarding their role on the Board. They discussed the Ted Steven's Act, National Governing Bodies and how athletes are selected to serve on the AAC.

6. New Business

A question was asked about the Virginia State Association, and the Board was advised that Jay Warwick was working with State Associations regarding any pending status or other inquiries. Referee honorarium was discussed, and the Board was informed that there were Referee pay increases in 2025 in addition to a lower membership fee, increased dinner per diem and discounted education for this group. Current athlete stipends and the vast array of services provided for these athletes were addressed by the CEO, Steve McNally. The 2027 World Military Games was mentioned, and the Board was notified that this competition was awarded to

another group and was not under the purview of USA Taekwondo. There was discussion around committee efforts and Board assignments.

7. **Next meeting**

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2025.

8. **Adjournment to Executive Session:**

Chair moved to adjourn the meeting and move to Executive Session, and this was seconded.