



USA RACQUETBALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Teleconference
Monday, November 26, 2018
5:30 pm Mountain

NOTES

Blue = Board votes

Green = Action items

Call to Order: 5:32 pm MT

In attendance: Joel Barshaw, Thurman Brooks, Jonathan Clay (Treasurer), Michelle De La Rosa (Athlete Rep), Jose Diaz (Athlete Rep), Scott Fish (Vice President), Mike Kiedrowski, Cheryl Kirk (Secretary), Joanne Pomodoro, Terry Rogers, Aimee Ruiz (Athlete Rep/ExCom), Cindy Tilbury, Mike Wedel (Executive Director), Dan Whitley (President)

A quorum was achieved. President Whitley provided prior notice of the meeting.

Roll Call, Intro, & Approval of Minutes (Dan Whitley & Cheryl Kirk)

ACTION ITEMS (10/29/18)

Action Item: Thurman Brooks to send the 2017 990 to Leo Vasquez to post on the USAR website. (Will send immediately to Leo.)

Action Item: Cheryl Kirk to send last year's roster and planning/administration documents to Terry for her reference and use. DONE

Approval of Meeting Minutes – 10/29/18 -- Cheryl Kirk

Terry Rogers moved to approve the 10/29/2018 meeting minutes.

Scott Fish seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Vote: Passed unanimously

Election Committee (Terry Rogers)

November 30, 2018, is the deadline for statements of interest. As of this meeting, two individuals have sent statements and one person has asked if they could nominate someone. The response was that candidates must submit their own documents.

Junior Program (Dan Whitley)

Creating a high school program in St. Charles County (St. Louis) separate from what is already in existence. Incorporate best practices from other junior programs. Merge them later. Will continue to expand to Middle School, then to Grade School levels.

Will use Oregon and Washington programs as additional examples and put high school racquetball program creation in a package with building blocks from other parts of the country. Looking for a good name for the program, catchy like Net Generation in the sport of tennis.

Marketing Committee (Aimee Ruiz)

Planning to hold a committee meeting before the end of the year to discuss USAR's marketing budget, especially for National Racquetball Day.

Membership Committee (Scott Fish)

No meeting since last Board meeting. Planning to hold a committee meeting before the end of the year. Key discussion topics will be pricing and value of membership.

State Association Committee (Dan Whitley, Scott Fish, and Michelle De La Rosa)

This is a spinoff from the Membership Committee. Michelle has requested a preliminary conversation to establish guidelines for the committee.

Staff Member Renée Gundolff is pulling together state agreements with other national organizations that can be used as benchmark information. Dan Whitley has some background information to offer - e.g., oversight for compliance/sharing of best practices and sanctioned events follow-up.

National Events Committee (Mike Wedel)

Meeting on 11/13 -- ideas generated by the committee on hospitality, benefits, locations, etc. Calendar dates for 2020. Survey results will facilitate further discussion -- ideas, opinions, desires. Next meeting is scheduled for December 11th.

Committee Oversight (Transition from Mike Wedel to Scott Fish)

Meeting will be scheduled between Mike, Scott, and Dan. Mike's work in late July on 2018-19 committees will be transitioned to Scott. Committee accountability is a key aspect of the Vice President's role.

US Team Committee -- Adult and Junior Coaches (Mike Wedel)

Mike contacted Larry Haemmerle about this. For the head coach, an extension can be considered. Mike is not on the committee, but there needs to be some work done on creating new people to take over. Who becomes the adult coach for PARC and Pan American Games. Very important for USAR. What do we do to ensure this is done well.

Board members who are members of this committee agreed that it has been awhile since there has been a committee call. There is a good amount of work to be accomplished.

Action Item: Scott Fish and Mike Wedel to reach out to Larry Haemmerle to gauge his continuing interest in chairing the US Team Committee. Scott can reach out to Dan for guidance as well.

World Juniors Update (Cheryl Kirk)

XXX IRF World Junior Racquetball Championships, San Luis Potosí, Mexico, November 1-11, 2018
See Winter issue of *Racquetball* magazine for a full account of this event.

Total number in delegation (including players, family members, and coaches/staff -- 74.
The US Junior Team was comprised of 27 players (14 boys and 13 girls) from 10 U.S. states -- California, Florida, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington.

Twelve countries (198 players) participated in total: Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia,

Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Mexico, and the USA.

STAFF -- Charlie Pratt (OR) – Head Coach, Jennifer Meyer (CO) – Esprit Coach, Jody Nance (CA) – Trainer/Assistant Coach, Robbie Collins (CA) -- Assistant Coach, Bobby Horn (CA) -- Assistant Coach, Cheryl Kirk (IL) – Team Leader/USAR Board of Directors, Scott Fish (WA) -- Staff Member/USAR Board of Directors

Both the Team USA World Cup and Esprit Cup teams placed third behind Mexico and Bolivia.

The XXXI IRF World Junior Championships will be hosted in San José, Costa Rica, in November 2019.

Office and Staff Updates (Mike)

Looked at El Pomar office. Has become more of a challenge than originally thought. We may or may not get that space but another smaller space may be available. We should know more in December.

A job description for a Membership Coordinator position has been posted to NFP sites, and a number of solid resumes have been received. Phone screens and then live interviews will take place with a hiring target of January 1, 2019. One manager and ultimately 2-3 coordinators will report to Renée Gundolff as manager in the office.

Another position being considered is that of Sports Coordinator, a go-to person for college/high school programs. Objective is that everyone in the office will be able to help with anything.

WOR (Dan Whitley & Mike Wedel)

Dan has been communicating with Mike Coulter and Hank Marcus about taking a supportive and active role for Outdoor. Discussed next year's 10th anniversary 3WallBall (Las Vegas); Huntington Beach (July -- Outdoor Nationals); and Beach Bash (March -- Hollywood Beach). Explored what support USAR can provide and incorporate into 2019 budget. A WOR National Events Committee may be created, to potentially be led by Greg Lewerenz.

WOR Vote in USAR Election (Dan Whitley & Mike Wedel)

This discussion began last year when the Board made the decision as a trial initiative to allow WOR members to vote in the USAR Board of Directors election.

Terry Rogers moved to include WOR members as voting members in USAR BOD elections.
Aimee Ruiz seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Do WOR members still have to join as full USAR members to run for the Board of Directors?
Election Procedures state yes.

A comment was made that this shouldn't reside with the election committee; it actually resides with the Legislative Committee. The WOR membership is a different membership.

When we purchased WOR, they were brought in under the USAR umbrella.

Vote: 12 yes, 1 no, motion passed

Dave Ellis Email – Pan American Championships 2019 (Mike)

Dave has sent correspondence to the Board requesting USAR to fund a full team to travel to the Pan American Racquetball Championships in Barranquilla, Colombia, in April.

Relative to US Team budget considerations, for the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru, in July/August 2019, the USOC pays the majority of the expenses. Have petitioned to the USOC to have an assistant coach travel with the team.

Action Item: Mike Wedel to get back with Dave Ellis regarding tabling this decision until December when more information will be available.

Financials (Jonathan Clay, Thurman Brooks, and Mike Wedel)

Thurman -- \$185k ytd profit with most of the US OPEN gain included. Relatively close to last year's numbers. The treasurer suggested that the Finance Committee work to make the reports more easily understood.

A Board member asked a question about timely remittance of third quarter rebates.

A Board member asked if the 2019 budget will include providing *Racquetball* magazine in hard copy to all members. This is under consideration and exploration.

Post-board meeting communication to membership, transparency (Scott Fish)

Members have been heard to express interest in knowing what is discussed and accomplished in Board meetings. A suggestion is to provide a periodic recap to the membership.

Action Item: Cheryl Kirk and Scott Fish to collaborate on a first approach.

Outstanding items

Cheryl Kirk reminded Board members about Giving Tuesday (11/27/18). Mike: Leo Vasquez is prepared with a list going out on social media. Renée Gundolff did a nice job of putting together all of the posts.

Action Item: Mike Wedel and Leo Vasquez to explore a request about Twitter posts -- is it possible for them to be actual posts? Currently they are linked from Instagram, technically not separate.

Cindy Tilbury reminded Board members to use Amazon Smile instead of Amazon and designate USA Racquetball to receive donations when purchases are made.

Next Board Meeting

Monday, January 7, 2018, 5:30 pm MT

Terry Rogers moved to adjourn, Joanne Pomodoro seconded.

Adjourned at 7:34 pm MT

Materials/information provided by President Dan Whitley and Thurman Brooks prior to the meeting:

- **October 29, 2018, Meeting Minutes for approval**