

Pacific NW WSO Board meeting minutes 3/20/2022 430pm Zoom

Present: Lauren Hatmaker, Joe Beck, Kora Nan, Nicole Kupfer, Mira Kwon Gracia, Brandi Miller, Shane Sevcik, Joseph Quinn

Not Present: Tiffany Yaskus

Propose next meeting for third Sunday of April, 4/17 at 430pm pacific time. (3rd Sunday of the month, with adjustments for competition calendar.

Communication and social media:

- Mira Kwon Gracia presented and led discussion about next steps for WSO social media, websites, and branding;
 - Per main office, all LWC branding should no longer be used (references to “LWC”);
 - Need: new website and brand/logo, new social media names referencing WSO;
 - Continue to use and promote new hashtags, have consistent voice;
 - Promote ALL USAW active clubs equally and fairly – using their recent posts and stories to amplify.
- New action items:
 - Quote for logo design, website build, and define scope of work;
 - Join Oregon and Washington content (we didn’t find any Alaska content but we will ask Alaska members to provide if available).
 - Board approved a budget range (no more than \$1000) for full scope of work and to use someone from our community if possible.
 - Mira and Brandi Miller to form sub-committee for above action items and will report back at next meeting. Sub-committee has permission to use the approved budget funds for reimbursement per board vote.
 - Board approved reimbursement for monthly charges for current Oregon Weightlifting page (SquareSpace) and Oregon Weightlifting domain during this transition and to point domain for an agreed transition period to the new Pacific NW WSO page. Cost approximately \$30/month and \$12/month respectively.

WSO Annual Championship:

- Set month for championship; Board approved October 2022 for WSO Championships.
- Propose location; Expect to be Seattle or Portland areas.
- WSO Board run or local club run? Board agreed to secure a Meet Director who has experience in running larger events.
- Action: Set / confirm qualifying period and standards. Discussion to be continued, but expect:
 - Big, more inclusive than exclusive, celebration with more athletes.
 - Less strict than previous Oregon qualifying standards;
 - Create a mid-day, Saturday, highest level lifters in an exhibition style session;
 - Good for spectators, other athletes, coaches;
 - Fun, create a spectacle, increase foot traffic.
- Joe Beck (who has been researching other large meets) and Joseph Quinn, to form subcommittee to locate a Meet Director first and to start coordination.

State and WSO Records:

- Joe Beck reported on BARS training available to us regarding useful WSO reports;
- Scheduled for 2/22 at 2pm pacific time;
- We will need a volunteer to run monthly, quarterly reports, and issue state record certificates and update our Google docs with existing records.
- Washington may need to establish a record standard if existing records are not recorded currently.
- Do Alaska records exist?

Local variance request:

- Board discussed updated Trans Athlete Policy at USAW:
 - Youth policy addition;
 - Recent athlete feedback on the USAW Trans Athlete process was good. Easier than they expected and not an unduly long process.
- Local variance requests discussed and approved:
 - Allowing trans athletes to participate in local meets in gender identity regardless of USAW status on gender; this will not supersede the USAW policy, rather promote inclusivity at the local level. This local variance to allow athletes to lift as they are – at the local level – and go through the official USAW Trans Athlete Policy process when ready. State records and higher-level (national and international) competitions will remain available for athletes in the gender they have established with USAW officially. Results will be entered into USAW BARS by member ID.
 - Use of an updated athlete card: Oregon developed an athlete card with spaces for preferred pronouns and names. It is form fillable. Board approved use of this card but it is optional – not mandatory. Some meet directors use digital scoring systems which print the standard athlete cards and those don't yet have access to the updated gender/name preferred card.
 - Board encourages all meet directors to make USAW athletes welcome by ensuring speakers use appropriate gender pronouns and correct names.