

USAW Masters Council Meeting Minutes

Date: May 14, 2025

Platform: Zoom

Minutes from [previous meetings](#)

Participants

- **Present:** Melissa Doherty, Gwen Chamberlain, Aimee Everett (joined 9:19 ET), Tom Sroka, Bob Takano, Mira Kwon Gracia, Carlos Hernandez, JP Nicoletta (staff liaison), Mike Choi (board liaison)
 - **Absent:** None
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1. Call to order:

- **Time:** 9:05 PM (ET)
 - **Facilitator:** Mike Choi
 - **COI Disclosures:**
 - AE: Athlete, club owner and coach
 - BT: Retired coach
 - CH: Athlete club owner and coach
 - GC: Athlete and coach, WSO member
 - MG: Athlete and coach, DEI committee and WSO member
 - MD: Coach and gym owner
 - TS: Coach
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2. Old Business

- **Masters Qualifying Totals (QT):** JP shared some competition data regarding opening weight selections compared to QTs at Masters Nationals. Suggesting there is room for increasing the QTs. GC advised to take care not to overdo increases on older age categories. BT suggested QTs should be representative of our community composition.
 - Next action: Staff to review proposal.
- **Hall of Fame Points (HoF):** MC opened discussion by urging Council to establish HoF points for Masters athletes and complete the task. MK recommended outside review from statisticians to make a suggestion on point rankings, per event. Will refer this out to a statistician and who will provide feedback. Agreed on event hierarchy from prior meeting as basis to assign HoF points.

All Masters events (except Virus Weightlifting Series) including, Sr. Nationals. Sr. Worlds or Pan Ams Championships. JP suggested “Outstanding Contributors” for Masters weightlifting should flow through USAW’s HoF Committee as opposed to a separate Masters HoF.

- Next Action: MK to engage a statistician friend for recommendations on points scoring matrix.

3. Discussion Topics

- **Upcoming Masters Nationals.** 2026 location still in negotiations. Dates are set for 4/9 - 4/12, 2026.
 - **Masters warm ups and apparel.** MC had discussions with Virus in Atlanta. They indicated they were positive on the idea and MC will follow up on this. Broadly, individuals will be able to order customized apparel.
 - **Vetting QTs for UMWF World Championships.** MC advised he will vet totals on UMWF worlds. Likely to start in October, 2025.
 - **Social media for UMWF.** MC advised he could use assistance with social media work for UMWF. Asked the committee to refer to teammates/friends to see if others can help. TS drafted a calendar for promoting UMWF. Asked what kind of content would be desirable. Diversity of content is key. Voice should be global in nature representative of our international masters community.
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3. Adjournment

- **Time:** 9:44 PM (ET)