



Speed Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 16th, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm PST

In Attendance:

- Robin Pendergast
- Kelly Springer
- Mikey Ratliff
- Deb Alpers
- Tosha Hill
- Darian Orozco
- Brian Talley
- Patty Leazier
- Jay Ingram

Declaration of Conflicts

Members of TEAM USA Staff – Jay, Kelly, Patty

- Patty – Daughter is a sponsor. Associated with Bont, previous Team USA staff member, board member of USA Roller Sports, involved in coaching BPP
- Tosha – Official at upcoming events, World Skate official, affiliated with events that occur in the Southern region.
- Mikey – owns a skate company that does business in the US and sponsors athletes, previous Team USA staff member
- Kelly – owns a skate company that does business in US and sponsors athletes and events, current and previous Team USA staff member.
- Darian – owner of skate company that does business in US, husband is a coach and applied for Team USA Manager.
- Brian – official at indoor and outdoor Nationals, represents different skate companies, wife is a Classic division athlete
- Jay – coach clinics around the world, previous Team USA staff member
- Robin – Official at IDN
- Deb – Daughter will be trying out for Team USA
- Erin – no conflicts at this time

IDN Recap

Discussion on Venue and how the venue is responding to our event. Feedback from venue has been positive and are discussing the possibility of returning to Reno in the future. Reno would like to bid for IDN in future.

Schedule got some good feedback, most liked schedule. Some wanted a break of some kind of break (a shorter break) and finals at night. The “feel” of finals was different with it not being in the evenings. Sprint night and Spirit night were not as exciting as when they are after a short break and in the evening

Discussion on relay events and how to make not so hectic, mixing all relays on same days made it confusing – will push this discussion to another meeting

Skater Packets - distributed to coaches and then coaches distributing to their skaters was liked by those who commented

Coaches area - Mixed reviews. The coach area should be spread out, it seemed to be a good compromise. Others wanted to have some access on the wall so coaches could be closer to skaters and not so crowded.

Venue and seating received positive feedback. There was room for everyone.

Venue food had mixed reviews

Check-in area seemed to work well – the flow of the skaters seemed to work smoothly

Feedback received from the feedback jotform was responded to within 24hours. The feedback will be organized and brought to committee for further discussion

Award Presentation - there were complaints about awards on floor and presentation taking so long and how can those can be condensed

- We got approval to do individual distance awards OFF the floor – we need an additional podium to do this in future
- Possibly award those during warm ups or set up in a block system and presented at least 15min after event
- Need podium, location, announcer, etc.

Live Feed - Not easy to see – people want it better – need a person to run cameras

Warm Up Block - warm up blocks did not match the warm ups on the schedule

- Warm ups need to be in the best interest of the athlete – everything we do has to be for the benefit for the athlete
- Athletes warm up and then sit for too long, many skaters do not even use the warm up because they sit for so long after the warm up
- Skaters skating in the wrong warm up group – need to remind coaches at coaches meeting that skaters only skate their designated warm up

Professionalism - Complaints on how officials treat our membership and how they address others – officials need to be professional when speaking with membership

Live Feed – A lot of complaints about people who want to watch but the feed is frustrating

- Families want to watch their kids or grandkids or friends. Many of the people who stay home are paying the bills for those who get to go

- Need volunteers to run a real live feed – utilize someone from a local college or something. Intern of some sort – college credit. Or high school CTE students
- Can we offer any incentives to get help with this
- USARS has all the equipment needed to do this. Figure has volunteers and their Live Feed is amazing
- We could offer “online tips” to help out whoever is volunteering

Schedule – if we are going to keep the schedule with no break, can we start a little later maybe an hour or two

- Last Day was very crammed
- Some feel the schedule was made for the officials not the athletes
- If we are going to do finals at night, then start next day a little later
- Last year the complaint was that we had too long of a break during the day / this year we removed the break and now they want a break, so need to adjust timing maybe

Schedule Idea – list that after the last day-time event, we take a 2 hour break – the evening start ,me will not be available until after the last morning / day event. Then there is always a 2 hour break after day events.

- People will need to get used to using the QR code and checking it for changes
- There has to be a cut off on when schedule changes are made so people can plan accordingly

Pilot Program - The pilot program failed, there were 5 total men and 5 total ladies in Grand Premier and above

- Grand Premier Men – 3 athletes
- Grand Premier Ladies – 2 athletes
- Premier Men – 2 athletes
- Premier Ladies – 3 athletes

When Grand Divisions were added, there were increases in numbers. The problem is female participation. The men’s divisions have more numbers with the Grand divisions, but cannot have Grand for men and not women. The concern is removing Grand for men could lower numbers as 10 year age divisions can have a significant difference in performance.

This year’s location could have contributed to the lower numbers in some divisions, ie. TT girls only had one skater. This is not common

Idea – If there are 7 or less entries between Master and Grand Master, we run them together and award separately. It is done outdoor and internationally so it is feasible.

- There could be interference within groups that could impact the results
- Indoor is smaller and officials should be able to handle it
- How do we handle a skater who gets lapped multiple times – will they come back if they have to race in combined groups ? Probably not = less participation

Idea – if we have a ranking system we could have Master A, Master B, Master C which would make competitive racing groups. This requires complete overhaul and organized structure

2026 IDN Location - Lincoln Next year but similar to this year – beginning of July but trying not to have it over July 4th

ODN 2026 Dates

Worlds is in October 2026

- We pick the dates and then USARS takes over the bid process.
- Middle of August – weather in Florida – hot and humid. Very skateable in morning and at night.
- Need to consider school start dates to allow for younger skaters to participate
- Check the Venues

Additional IDN Event

- Discussion on additional IDN event
- NOT a National Event
- Need outline for event
- What events will fit is a couple of ½ days

Emphasis on beginner / rookie divisions

- This will be to bring in new skaters
- Will support our Vendors
- Figure did it but with a C division – those C division skaters were **not welcome to skate Nationals**
- The risk we run with this is we are not bringing in additional skaters, our current skaters will split into two groups
- Some may come early to do relays.

Add World Class division

- Give our elite skaters an opportunity to race each other
- Give Soph, Jr, Sr skaters to race each other

TEAM USA Selection Process

- Next Steps for new selection process
- Find the old processes we have discussed and clean up
- Skaters will qualify for a Tryout
- Review this process with past 2 year results to see how it would work out

Growing the Sport Resource Package – we can bump that we can have something started

Open Meetings

- Currently none of the sport committees are having open meetings
- Speed Committee is not opposed to Open Meetings
- Open Meetings would be re-structured in a way to accommodate all parties

Mikey motions to adjourn 7:47pm Brian 2nd the motion – meeting adjourned at

7:48pm