



US Biathlon Board Meeting

June 17, 2024

1:00pm ET, Virtual

Attendees: Bob Hall, Jerry Baltzell, MG Gregory Knight, Jake Brown, Justin Gold, Dexter Paine (from approx. 1:45), Phyllis Jalbert, Hap Brakeley, Brian Noyes, Kelsey Dickinson, Rachel Steer
Staff/Guests: Jack Gierhart, Tim Burke, Lowell Bailey (from 1:30), John Farra (from 1:30), Sara Studebaker-Hall, Sara Donatello, Maj. Lucia (with MG Knight)

A quorum was established, giving the athletes present $\frac{1}{3}$ voting power.

Jack Gierhart welcomed the Board and staff members.

Bob Hall welcomed the Board and introduced newly elected Board member Justin Gold and noted returning member, newly re elected, Sarah Konrad.

Bob gave a quick Foundation update - 3 new trustees have signed on, thanks in part of the successful January trip to Antholz.

Bob also asked Board members for any potential conflicts of interest with regard to the meeting's agenda, and none were noted.

Rachel Steer made a motion to approve the Feb. 20 meeting minutes, Brian Noyes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Rachel provided an update on the Athlete Safety Task Force:

- Vestry Leight attended the National Team camp in Lake Placid in early June, conducted interviews, and is currently surveying approximately 50-60 athletes.
- The task force will send an update to membership soon.
- Jack noted that there was a positive feeling from the staff after the Lake Placid visit

Sara Studebaker-Hall provided a SafeSport update:

- The 2025 updated Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) have been approved and will go into effect Nov. 1
- The Center for SafeSport was conducting an event audit this coming week in Utah at the Development Camp.
- Sara also gave a case update, outlining the number of open and closed cases as well as a status update for the internally handled cases.
 - Brian asked if the case numbers were high or low, and Jack noted that they are extremely low.
 - Hap Brakeley asked if the Center's responsiveness has been an issue, and Jack answered that it has been, and there is legislation that may help in the future, but unclear if it will go through or the changes will remain. Case load for The Center remains a large problem.

Jack and Brian presented a Financial Update.

Jack led a presentation on the 2025 plan, including the budget.

- MG Knight asked about marketing and communications and whether we have analyzed our outreach. Jack noted we had not, but that we do have some resources with IBU and other numbers.



- Dexter Paine asked about budget risks for the coming FY. Jack noted that sponsorship is a bit unknown.
- Bob noted this appears to be a “hope for the best, plan for the worst” scenario.
- Rachel motioned to approve the budget, Jerry Baltzell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lowell Bailey provided a High Performance Update

Tim Burke provided a Development Update

- Bob asked about camp performances. Lowell indicated positive results and opportunities.

Lowell and Tim presented the ICC approved team nominations. Jake Brown made a motion to approve all ICC approved teams, MG knight seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jake Brown and Kelsey Dickinson noted potential conflict of interests as current athletes named in the documents to teams. The Board did not feel they needed to recuse themselves.

Jake and Kelsey lead an athlete report, with information from completed athlete surveys.

John Farra gave a Sport Development update.

Jack and Sara gave an Office and Administrative update:

- Georgia Rabin has moved on, after we realized it just wasn't the right fit.
- We hope to move into the office space in July at Soldier Hollow.
- Jack gave an overview of the May staff retreat and strategic planning session
- Jack also noted that the October meeting will be focused on a 2030 plan update, Oct. 3-5 in Utah.

Sara Donatello gave a logo project update:

- We are back in process, and hope to have something to present at the next meeting.

Jack gave an USOPC update:

- USOPC grants are in the works
- Dexter was renewed as an USOPC Board member
- Jack gave a quick overview of the Olympic and SafeSport legislation that is ongoing, including the congressional commission which has been slow work.

Jack gave an Utah update:

- There has been good engagement in the Salt Lake bid, and the OC has been given a July 24 date for likely bid confirmation.
- We are working with UOLF on a service agreement as new “tenants”
- Sara and Jack just returned from the IBU OC meeting with UOLF representatives, and are working on event bids together with Canmore.

Jack and Sara provided a quick USOPC audit review, noting some work will need to be done and approved by the Board in October, including bylaw updates.

Hall of Fame criteria update need was noted - this will be on the agenda for the Oct. meeting
Next meeting - Oct. 3-5 in person in Utah.

MG knight noted he is hoping to work on several try-it events, and will keep John apprised.

The Board adjourned to executive session at 3:25pm ET.