



Speed Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 28th 2026

Meeting was called to order at 5:33pm PST

In Attendance:

- Bryan Hays
- Darian Orozco
- Deb Alpers
- Kelly Springer
- Mikey Ratliff
- Brian Talley
- Tosha Hill
- Tony Jones

Not in Attendance:

- Erin Jackson

Declaration of Conflicts

Reminder of types of conflicts for new members – Sponsor, Vendor/Supplier, Official, Coach with athletes in positions that may be topic of meeting, Team USA staff that may be topic of meeting. The committee determines that those with conflicts can/cannot participate in discussions or vote/not vote on certain topics.

- 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 Talley – official at indoor and outdoor Nationals, represents different skate companies, wife is a Classic division athlete
- Deb – No conflicts at this time
- Erin – no conflicts at this time
- Bryan Hays – no conflicts at this time
- Tony – no conflicts at this time

Follow up on past discussions and business

- ODN Proposed Dates – Aug 22nd – Sep 2nd - we are waiting on USARs to give the location !!

There is concern that school is in session during this time

- Send the following to the office to have published
 - Middle Race Tie Breaker – Posted and Published
 - Jewelry Rule – Posted and Published
- GR5.04.12 - Transfer Rule has been published

- 2026 – National Team Finalized and will be posted
- Officials Update - Emerald Coast – 2 new skaters interested in becoming officials – will follow up on their tests at the officials committee meeting
- Brent will be supplying the Master Skater list and Master Coaches so we can send out the survey regarding ODN Points Race distances for the Master divisions
- We will launch the rulebook committee – Darian will oversee that committee / Deborah will document changes
- Officials committee will meet tomorrow – Tosha and Robin will lead this committee

Review ODN Age group races and rule book update

Discussion around the current USARS rule book list of ODN races that is not accurate to what we have been running at ODN.

Remove the distances that are listed in the Outdoor portion of our rulebook and replace with “distances that will attempt to mirror World Skate distances” from the World Skate pool of distances.

Need to add * Distances subject to change in the event World Skate makes a last minute change.

Reference World Skate Rule Book - Most current races recognized by World Skate subject to change in the event World Skate makes a distance change

The rulebook committee will finalize the above and bring to committee for approval

Review ODN Division Age groups

The rulebook committee will review and update the Outdoor Nationals Division Age Groups. Currently there is no Primary division in our rule book and the Juvenile age groups are different for Track and Road.

ODN age divisions for track and road should match:

- Primary – 8 yrs & Under
- Juvenile - 9-10 yrs
- Freshman – 11-13 yrs
- Junior – 14-18 yrs
- Senior – 14 yrs & Older
- Master A – D with specific age ranges

In addition the rulebook committee will review the Junior and Senior Divisions and determine if they should match the Jr. & Sr. World Class distances ?

National Helmet Covers

Working on getting commemorative helmet covers funded and for use at the National Championships
Discuss how to use the helmet cover on entry forms – are forms consistent ?

Theresa Cliff Rule Ammendment

Discuss updating either the existing Theresa Cliff Rule OR Build into the Team Selection Process – where we do not have alternates.

... if an athlete is voted on team by Theresa Cliff Rule, the athlete will be added on to the team if a position becomes available with a suggestion to include whether the position is for sprint or distance using performance metrics vs medals.

Rulebook Committee - need to get out in rule book change before 6 months out

Team USA Survey Discussions

- Concerned regarding the negative feedback from Surveys and how to address this and make it better
- Will continue to go over the surveys and discuss further next meeting

USARS Spring Clinic

Tentative Date March 21st – Location TBD – Reaching out to venues to see track availability

Team USA Staff Selection Process

- Consider placing staff in their roles for 3 year terms to build a more structured approach for staff.
- Using the surveys to help create the structure and then also what happens with bad surveys or someone is not a good fit
- Create a clear process defining rolls and responsibilities and outline steps when a member is determined to not be a good fit.

Reason – Convert the roll of coach into a season long responsibility – important all year for multiple years. Being a successful coach means you are creating successful athletes - build trust, make relationships with athletes. This is a significant responsibility - main base is to support the athletes. Consistency, opportunity to create relationships with the athletes. Create an environment for the athletes to feel safe, and have trust in the coaching staff.

Pan American Qualifier

Pan American qualifier – July 15th – 19th - Use the National Team list and invite until we get the number of athletes that are invited

- Typically 1 sprinter and 1 distance athlete are funded.
- We have no formal invitation or formal information yet
- In the past they have allowed more athletes to participate if they are at the event. This is not guaranteed and we have not been able to get any solid answer

Pan American staff should be from current Team USA Staff

Team USA Sponsor bids will be sent out by USARS office – follow up ASAP

IDN July 7th – 15th – Lincoln Nebraska

6:53 Mikey motion to adjourn / Bryan Hays seconded it / Meeting adjourned