



USA Racquetball Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes

Monday, January 27, 2025 7:30 pm ET

Via Zoom

Welcome/Call to Order – 7:33 pm ET -- Stewart Solomon

Congratulations to Janel Tisinger-Ledkins on the birth of Embree Elora Ledkins, January 21, 2025

Roll Call – Cheryl Kirk

	Roll Call
Stewart Solomon (President)	x
*Kristin Wattz (Vice President)	x
*Cheryl Kirk (Secretary)	x
Sandy Rios (Treasurer)	x
Jake Bredenbeck (Athlete Rep)	x
Ro-el Cordero	x
Steve Czarnecki	x
Tom Fuhrmann (Athlete Rep)	x
Glen Gitterman	x
*Karen Grisz	0
Erika Manilla (Athlete Rep)	x
Janel Tisinger-Ledkins (Athlete Rep)	0
Charlie Pratt (Athlete Rep, Team USA AC Alternate/ex officio)	0

* = *Office of the Executive Director*

Approval of Meeting Minutes: November 18, 2024; December 16, 2024; and January 8, 2025 – Cheryl Kirk

Motion by Glen Gitterman to approve the previously provided minutes of the November 18, 2024; December 16, 2024; and January 8, 2025, Board of Directors meetings.

Seconded by Sandy Rios

Discussion 11/18: None

Discussion 12/16: None

Discussion 1/8: None

Vote: Passes

Conflicts of Interest Review/Reminder – Cheryl Kirk

**Directors are reminded to abstain/recuse themselves on topics that are a conflict of interest.

Each Board member has the duty to adhere to the USA Racquetball Conflict of Interest Policy as an Affiliated Person.

Executive Committee Update – Stewart Solomon

Discussion points covered -- US OPEN considerations update, Pan American Racquetball Championships, Hall of Fame medals, Racquet X participation

Office of the Executive Director (OED) Report – Kristin Wattz/Cheryl Kirk

The OED will meet with Stewart Solomon weekly to provide status updates

Kristin and Cheryl met with Stewart on Friday 24th

Plans were discussed to institute a new fundraising campaign for 2025-26; nine U.S. Adult and Junior Team competitions over the next three years; working with Sandy and Jonathan to create a PayPal account to facilitate FB fundraising

Suggestion from a Board member to create a pie chart that highlights/educates on USA Racquetball expenses, e.g., Racquet X. Work with Jared Harding/Aimee Ruiz and social media in some sort of quick hit..."did you know"

Joe Hall (Splathead) will be sponsoring as Junior Team Apparel Provider through the end of 2025. Adult Team Head Coach materials have gone to Pablo Fajre for execution.

Committee Updates

Membership Committee – Ro-el Cordero

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the following USA Racquetball membership price structure with implementation processes to be developed by the Membership Committee:

Adult 1yr Auto Renew	\$ 75.00
Junior 1yr (anyone 22 and under)	\$ 40.00
LEM (1 time in calendar year)	\$ 40.00
WOR	\$ 35.00

Actual first time (year free w/auto renew) \$ -

Free Recreational Membership \$ -

Seconded by Kristin Wattz

Discussion surrounding outdoor memberships; clarification of LEM/first-time members

Vote: Passes

=> Next Steps

Ro-el Cordero to convene Membership Committee:

- Determine implementation process
- Reach out to R2 with questions
- Report at next Board meeting
- Timing – as soon as details worked out and communication can be prepared
- Target deadline of May 1st

Finance Committee – Sandy Rios

- Will forward a preliminary year-end report to the Board.
- Not yet audited, received just today
- Showing loss of around \$60k for 2024
- Includes all consulting fees for Josh Gross (One44) and Jared Harding (Tewdilly)

Legislative Committee – Cheryl Kirk

Per Article IX, 901.0.B, proposed Bylaws and Policy Revisions were sent to the Board by the Legislative Committee on January 10, 2025, which met the “15 days in advance” requirement.

Two documents were provided:

1. USAR Legislative Committee Bylaws and Policies Revisions Report, Notification, and Voting Synopsis_01102025

2. Worksheet_USA_Racquetball_Bylaws_Proposed_Revisions_01102025

Both documents are on file with the Secretary of the association.

****See pp. 4-5 of these minutes to view the Bylaws and Policy Revisions ratified by the Board of Directors at this meeting.***

Update: US OPEN 2026 – Stewart Solomon

Due to time constraints for this meeting, Stewart scheduled a follow-up Board meeting for Friday, 1/31/25, to fully discuss this agenda item and then will schedule a subsequent call with the potential developers.

Update: The World Games 2025 – Cheryl Kirk

A letter was received from the IRF earlier today and was sent via email to the Board prior to this meeting.

In the letter, a Summary of Deadlines was communicated that is more detailed than one hard deadline of March 31, 2025, that was communicated prior to the end of the year.

Based on revised and expanded information from the IWGA via the IRF, the U.S. Team Committee will meet, review, and make their recommendations to the Board on the selection process and procedures for TWG 2025.

An immediate communication was recommended to be sent from U.S. Team Committee Chairman Larry Haemmerle to U.S. Team athletes to inform them that additional information has been received regarding deadlines and timelines from the IRF that creates the need for the U.S. Team Committee to meet again to make an updated recommendation to the Board.

Update: Pan American Racquetball Championships – April 10-20, 2025

A U.S. presence at PARC in Guatemala City is important. Larry Haemmerle (U.S. Team Committee Chairman) and Pablo Fajre (U.S. Team Head Coach) are in process of contacting all present U.S. Team athletes to get their views and thoughts on possible representation.

Next Regular Meeting: February 24, 2025 7:30 pm ET

Motion by Sandy Rios to adjourn

Seconded by Glen Gitterman

Adjourned 10:26 pm ET

***Bylaws and Policy Revisions Recap from p. 3**

Bylaws Revisions

<p>Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revision (note before Article I on page 4) as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Throughout these Bylaws and all USA Racquetball policies, when the term Executive Director is utilized, and pursuant to the information provided in Articles VI and VIII, the term “Office of the Executive Director” is to be considered synonymous with the term “Executive Director” and all the roles and responsibilities therein, except where otherwise noted.</i></p> <p>Seconded by Steve Czarnecki</p> <p>Discussion: None</p> <p>Vote: Passed</p>
<p>Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article VI, 601.0.B.1, Executive/Ethics/Personnel/Grievance Committee, as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.</p> <p>Seconded by Steve Czarnecki</p> <p>Discussion: Point raised regarding inclusion of a reference to timing of a replacement. Counterpoint re bylaws being a legal framework, not a strategic or operational plan.</p> <p>Vote: Passed with one abstention (T. Fuhrmann)</p>
<p>Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article VII, 701.0.D, Elections c), as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.</p> <p>Seconded by Kristin Wattz</p> <p>Discussion: None</p> <p>Vote: Passed</p>
<p>Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article VIII, 802.0.A.1, President, as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.</p> <p>Seconded by Glen Gitterman</p> <p>Discussion: None</p> <p>Vote: Passed</p>
<p>Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article VIII, 802.0.C.1, Secretary, as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.</p> <p>Seconded by Steve Czarnecki</p> <p>Discussion: None</p> <p>Vote: Passed</p>
<p>Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article VIII, 803.0.A, Election of Officers and Terms, as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.</p> <p>Seconded by Glen Gitterman</p> <p>Discussion: Question about timing of Annual Meeting in May 2025</p> <p>Vote: Passed</p>
<p>Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article VIII, 805.0.A, 805.0.C, add 805.0.D, re-letter last two section E. and F., Executive Director, as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative</p>

Committee on January 27, 2025.

Seconded by Glen Gitterman

Discussion: None

Vote: Passed with one abstention (T. Fuhrmann)

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article VIII, 806.0.A, Other Positions/Immediate Past President, brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.

Seconded by Kristin Wattz

Discussion: None

Vote: Passed

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Bylaws revisions to Article IX, 903.0.A, Standing Committees: Representation and Procedures, as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.

Seconded by Glen Gitterman

Discussion: Question about roles of OED members as committee members.

Vote: Passed

Policy Revisions

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve recommended USA Racquetball Policy revisions as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on January 27, 2025.

Seconded by: Kristin Wattz

Discussion: None

Vote: Passed

USA Racquetball Policies Review – add this language at the beginning of each policy where the term Executive Director is present:**

****** Code of Conduct and Statement of Ethics, Conflict of Interest, Conflict of Interest Acknowledgment & Disclosure Statement, Gifts and Entertainment Policy, Grievance Procedure Policy, Transgender Policy, Whistleblower Policy

NOTE: Throughout the USA Racquetball Bylaws and all USA Racquetball policies, when the term Executive Director is utilized, and pursuant to the information provided in Articles VI and VIII, the term “Office of the Executive Director” is to be considered synonymous with the term “Executive Director” and all the roles and responsibilities therein, except where otherwise noted. (See USA Racquetball Bylaws, Articles VI and VIII.)

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