



**USA Racquetball Board of Directors
MINUTES
April 27, 2026
Via Zoom
5:30 pm MT / 4:30 PT / 6:30 CT / 7:30 ET**

Pre-reads

1. BOD Minutes 03162026
2. USA Sports Benefits Flyer
3. Leadership Update Article SUTN April 2026
4. U.S. Team Committee Report

Welcome/Call to Order – Kristin Wattz 5:40 pm MT

Roll Call – Cheryl Kirk

	Roll Call
Kristin Wattz (President)	x
Jerry Lis (Vice President) appt 4/27	x
*Cheryl Kirk (Secretary)	x
Sandy Rios (Treasurer)	x
Jake Bredenbeck (Athlete Rep)	x
Ro-el Cordero	0
Tom Fuhrmann (Athlete Rep)	x
Glen Gitterman	0
Charlie Pratt (Athlete Rep/Team USA AC)	0
Janel Tisinger-Ledkins (Athlete Rep)	x
Cindy Tilbury	x

* Office of the Executive Director

Conflict of Interest Review/Reminder and Annual Requirements – 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.

Annual Confidentiality and Social Media statements will be executed via email from the secretary. All other requirements will run through Ankored: SafeSport, background checks, Statement of Ethics/Code of Conduct, and Conflict of Interest disclosures.

Approval of 3/16/2026 Minutes – Cheryl Kirk (P-1)

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the USAR Board of Directors meeting minutes of 2/23/2026.

Seconded by Jerry Lis

Discussion: None

Vote: Passed

Executive Committee Update – Kristin Wattz (P-2)

- Kristin announced the appointment of Board member Jerry Lis to fill the vacant vice president position on the Executive Committee.
- USA Sports Benefits P-2 screen share; letter will be sent via email to the membership
- Committee Reports – all but a few have been submitted

- Mike Coulter offered to support production of a USA Racquetball commercial video for streaming at Huntington Beach Outdoor Nationals and World Championships in July
- Attendance at Junior Nationals in Des Moines 6/24-28
 - 5 Board members, 2 staff members, and several junior coaches are confirmed to attend. US OPEN free entry certificates for junior gold medalists will be offered again this year.

Office of the Executive Director Update – Cheryl Kirk (P-3)

- *Serving Up the News* Board update article P-3 was published in the April issue
- PARC and Intercollegiate recaps were published in the April issue as well
- The 3Q State President and Tournament Director call will be July 7
- New Board member orientation is scheduled for May 8.
- Athlete alternate selection is on hold pending contact from Team USA AC leaders
- A Junior Team USA athlete will be focusing on developing a referee training approach for coaches to use in assisting junior players with their referee skills. She will make a presentation to the Board at the May 15 Annual Meeting.

Financial Reports / 2026 Budget – Sandy Rios

After three of four national championships were successfully completed in the first quarter of this year, Sandy reported good news citing increased funds on hand.

Our accountants along with Sandy, Kristin, and Cheryl have met with the CPA performing USA Racquetball's 2025 audit. Results may be finalized in time to present to the Board at the Annual Meeting. After Board approval, the 990 for 2025 will be filed and published.

Motion by Cheryl Kirk to approve the ExCom's recommendation that a \$250 donation from Michelle Lee received at the USAR National Indoor Championships in May 2025 be designated toward general family support expenses (e.g. water/supplies) at the 2026 IRF World Junior Championships.

Seconded by Cindy Tilbury

Discussion: None

Vote: Passed

U.S. Team Committee – Cheryl Kirk (P-4)

Cheryl recapped the U.S. Team Committee Report to BOD_04272026 (P-4)

The following motions were made and approved:

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommendation of the U.S. Team Committee that Pablo Fajre be named to the independent contractor position of USA Racquetball High Performance Director effective May 1, 2026, with end date by mutual consent of USA Racquetball and Pablo Fajre.

Seconded by Cindy Tilbury

Discussion: Definitions of success were discussed in concept and recommended for discussion with Pablo.

Vote: Passed with one abstention

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the U.S. Team Committee's recommendation to implement the U.S. Junior Team coaching structure under the supervision of the High Performance Director for the 2026 and 2027 IRF World Junior Championships as presented at the Board meeting on April 27, 2026.

Seconded by Cindy Tilbury

Discussion: Under Pablo Fajre's leadership, a group will collaborate to identify and select coaches for World Juniors and bring their recommendations to the Board for ratification (similar to past processes). Discussion about who will handle issues as they might arise at World Juniors.

Vote: Passed with one abstention

Next Step:

- Revise the *U.S. Junior Racquetball Team Procedures & Protocols, Effective June 1, 2026*. The U.S. Team Committee will submit the document for approval at the Board's Annual Meeting on May 15.

Additional Updates:

- Identifying a U.S. Junior Team uniform supplier for the IRF World Junior Championships is work in progress.
- Cheryl gave a status update on execution of U.S. Adult Team contracts (deadline May 31).

New Business – All

- At its Annual Meeting, the Board will hear from an ad hoc group interested in establishing a National Women’s Racquetball Day.
- The Board agreed that sanctioning fees will be waived for WorldWide Racquetball Day events offered here in the U.S.
- A suggestion to establish long-term plans for the association and the sport was discussed with a consensus that shorter-term strategic planning will be more valuable given current challenges and volatility.
- Kristin and Cheryl will attend the USOPC Assembly in Colorado Spring, September 22-27
- Kristin invited Board members to suggest agenda items for the Annual Meeting.

Next Meeting: Annual Meeting – May 15, 2026

Adjourn

**Motion by Sandy Rios to adjourn
Seconded by Cheryl Kirk**

Adjourned 7:27 pm MT

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We are the U.S. ADULT AND JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAMS
We are the USA HALL OF FAME and ANNUAL AWARDS recognizing excellence and contribution

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We support STATE ORGANIZATIONS and EVENT DIRECTORS
We help our members with STRATEGIES to SAVE COURTS
We provide TECHNOLOGY: communication, membership, rankings, and R2 Sports
We manage RULES and EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS
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The graphic features three circular inset images: the top one shows two players in action on a court; the middle one shows two players holding medals; the bottom one shows two players holding trophies. The background is a light-colored wall with a wooden floor at the bottom.