

Pacific NW WSO Board meeting AGENDA 4/17/2022 430pm Zoom

Present: Lauren Hatmaker, Mira Kwon Gracia, Shane Sevcik, Brandi Miller, Joe Beck

Not present: Joe Quinn, Kora Nan, Nicole Sahlin, Tiffany Wohler

Future Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of each month, 430pm Pacific Time with adjustments for National Competition Calendar (next 5/15/2022)

Local Variance request:

- **Trans athlete inclusivity as per last meeting's minutes**

Allowing trans athletes to participate in local meets in gender identity regardless of USAW status on gender; this will not supersede the USAW policy, rather promote inclusivity at the local level. This local variance to allow athletes to lift as they are – at the local level – and go through the official USAW Trans Athlete Policy process when ready. State records and higher-level (national and international) competitions will remain available for athletes in the gender they have established with USAW officially. Results will be entered into USAW BARS by member ID.

Use of an updated athlete card: Oregon developed an athlete card with spaces for preferred pronouns and names. It is form fillable. Board approved use of this card but it is optional – not mandatory. Some meet directors use digital scoring systems which print the standard athlete cards and those don't yet have access to the updated gender/name preferred card.

Board encourages all meet directors to make USAW athletes welcome by ensuring speakers use appropriate gender pronouns and correct names.

- Per Alexandra Love, WSO liaison with the USAW Board, this policy will be officially rolled out nationwide so we won't need a local variance. Due date no later than June 2022.
- USAW is aware Pacific Northwest WSO will be following this policy in our region as we have since it was originally passed by Oregon LWC (2020-2021) and reconfirmed, Q1 2022, with the board of Pacific Northwest WSO.

WSO Annual Championship:

- Joe Beck and Joe Quinn to report on discussion with Rob Arroyo:
 - Rob is unable to be meet director; is willing to assist and advise board members/approved meet director.
 - Joe reported hotel convention centers are full, expensive (more than \$10k for fee) and/or non-responsive. In a convention center or hotel venue, Joe's calculations are that we'd need minimum of 200 entrants to break even. May not include liability coverage for WSO in those figures.
 - Board discussed finding alternate locations. Mira to research some in Portland that she has seen (empty venues). Ask for suggestions by WSO members on social media and by email. Portland and Seattle areas remain top focus for WSO champs to allow easier travel for most athletes.

- Board confirmed October 2022 for WSO championship based on national and international competition schedules and peaking for athletes/coaches for AO Finals, Nationals, etc.
- WSO Board run: board consensus to run as WSO board committee – all hands on deck for logistics. Could we use club volunteers to staff loading crew and use as club fundraisers like Praxis did with masters nats?
- Set / confirm qualifying period and standards: board approved inviting everyone who is part of the Pacific Northwest WSO to this inaugural kick off championship; no qualifying totals nor qualifying period. Plan to run highest level athletes in joint session(s) in prime time for spectator draw, exhibition style. Get an idea of interest for future championships.
- Who will be responsible for budget and spending? WSO Board to front venue fees, prizes, etc and recoup costs with ticket sales and team registrations.

State and WSO Records:

- Who will track and update state records in each state?
 - Board discussed time involved and current process that Oregon had been using. Should be done by each state or by one person? Board volunteers requested – follow up next meeting in May to confirm.
 - Who has access to the underlying google docs and can we stream to the newly designed WSO website? Mira says yes we can put this into the new WSO website.
 - Rankings can be searched on BARS.
 - Board discussed and voted that state records will be submitted as requests by email with button on the new website. Will be coach and athlete responsibility to inquire/report records which can then be verified and certificate issued. Board determined this was most sustainable option going forward.
- Source and issue certificates once new WSO logo is complete and new certificate designed.
- For continuity of voice and access to accurate reports, board agreed records should be managed and announced by board members through WSO social media.

Communication and social media:

- Update on graphic design package and website.
 - Mira and Brandi reported progress on logo design. Almost finished.
- Input on social media best practices.
 - Fair representation among USAW clubs in good standing
 - Promote events, educational opportunities, soft roll out of new logo, WSO hashtags

Budget and account balances at USAW sub accounts:

- Any requests for spending this month? Discussed previously approved (BIPOC coaching and inclusivity grants) spending and request to renew.
- Board discussed and consensus was that we need to review income and expenses to approve budget before issuing grants and scholarships.
- Board will be responsible to our constituency over spending so we need to have an approved budget to back up decisions.

- Lauren provided report by Andrea Andrews, USAW Finance Director. Will follow up with Andrea about specifications on the report and questions about “rebate” income.
- Asset discussion: as the WSO (and formerly LWC)s are a sub group of USAW’s 501c3, we are not our own entity. Are our assets registered and insured with USAW? Do we have a current list of assets “owned” by the state LWCs and now the WSOs?

For future board meetings:

- Promotion of educational opportunities: athlete ally, inclusion playbook, etc;
- Budget creation, spending requests and process, smaller spending items?
 - Mileage reimbursement for national and higher level referees to local meets?
 - Athlete/coach stipends for national and international meets?
- Creating resources / links and infographics to help our members navigate BARS