



USAR Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, August 29, 2022
5:30 pm MT
Videoconference via Zoom

Called to order by President Stewart Solomon at 5:34 pm MT

(Quorum was achieved; advance notice given of the meeting; directors recuse themselves on topics that are a conflict of interest.)

Attending: Todd Boss, Jake Bredenbeck (Athlete Representative), Steve Czarnecki (Treasurer), Michelle De La Rosa (Secretary/Athlete Representative), Mike Grisz, Danielle Maddux (Athlete Representative), Maurice Miller, Charlie Pratt (Athlete Representative/AAC), Terry Rogers (Vice President), Stewart Solomon (President), Cindy Tilbury, Mike Wedel (Executive Director)

Motion by Charlie Pratt to approve the 7/25/2022 Annual Meeting minutes

Seconded by Danielle Maddux

Discussion: None

Vote: Passed unanimously

Action Item Follow-Up (Stewart Solomon)

Discussion of US Team Handbook - Tabled until September
Committee discussion – Tabled to a future meeting

IRF World Championships Recap (Stewart Solomon, Charlie Pratt, Michelle De La Rosa)

Great event! Phenomenal facilities with 8 courts, attached hotel, and food on site. The competition was tough this year with many countries in attendance. Team USA finished 3rd overall, 3rd in Men's, and 3rd in Women's. USAR sent the largest delegation (nine athletes: Carson, Landa, S. Bredenbeck, Pratt, E. Manilla, Rajsich, Lawrence, Scott, De La Rosa). The team members supported each other throughout the event. Stewart Solomon, USAR Board President, was in attendance in support of Team USA and to represent USAR at the IRF World Congress on August 23rd.

Action Item: Ramp up USA Team Challenge and be more proactive for next year. PARC and the Pan American Games will both take place in Chile next year. Both events, plus the IRF World Junior Championships, necessitate raising significant funds in support of these costly competitions.

Executive Committee Update (Stewart Solomon)

In the recent ExCom meeting prior to the Board meeting, discussion took place on scheduling for next year's events. Working with WOR to ensure that events are scheduled with as much separation of dates as possible. Discussion regarding a marketing campaign to increase membership and help the organization grow. Other topics included US OPEN promotion and recaps on event statistics.

Executive Director Update (Mike Wedel)

The main focus of discussion was on membership. There has been a dip in the WOR membership numbers. Proposed a marketing program moving forward and how it will mesh with USAR operations. Mike requested assistance from Board members to recruit participation from the state associations.

Budget/Finance Committee (Steve Czarnecki)

USA Racquetball's current cash position is of concern, particularly due to the World Games not yet having reimbursed the Association for costs connected with providing and setting up the portable court in Birmingham for the Games. Payment is expected shortly.

July 2022 membership revenue beat budget. However, shortfalls earlier in the year are predicted to cause membership revenue for the year to be more than 10% behind budget and significantly behind pre-pandemic levels.

Individual contribution revenue has been trending better than budget. This is an important revenue stream to help support the three Adult National Team events in 2022 along with the return of the IRF World Junior Championships in December. Individual contribution goals have been increased to help cover higher costs associated with these events, including increasing travel costs. The Team USA Challenge campaign is the primary initiative to raise these much-needed funds.

The Finance Committee is now focusing on the 2023 budget and monitoring the financially important US OPEN Racquetball Championships.

Committee Updates (Terry Rogers)

- Standing committee reports process initiated every quarter starting in October
- Requested feedback from all committee chairs via updates prior to the US OPEN Board Meeting

Other New Business (All)

- Team USA Challenge (33% donor, 80% benefactors)
- Losing courts across the country is a significant concern that must be given priority.
- Racquet:Next (virtual racquet sport on Facebook platform utilizing Oculus headset)
- Gaining new members by giving lessons at clubs. Concept of having a student sign up for a membership in lieu of paying for an introductory lesson.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 27th, 2022; 2:00 pm CT (On site at the US OPEN with a Zoom link provided)

Adjournment

Motion by Mike Grisz to adjourn

Seconded by Maurice Miller

Adjourned at 7:52 pm MT