



**U.S. Biathlon Board Meeting Minutes**  
**December 16, 2026**  
**Virtual**

*Attendees:* Jerry Baltzell, Bob Hall, Max Durtschi, Katherine Kendrick, Rachel Steer, Kelsey Dickinson, Dexter Paine, Phyllis Jalbert, Russell Currier, Sarah Konrad, Justin Gold, Hap Brakeley, Major General Gregory Knight

*Staff:* Jack Gierhart, Sara Studebaker-Hall, Sara Donatello, Lowell Bailey, John Farra, Tim Burke, Bryce Wallentine

*Guests/Membership:* Anna French, Justin Hansen, Pete Langlois, Ahmed Alali, Karl Zeile

Following an informal update for the membership, the Board Meeting was called to order. A quorum was established, giving the athletes currently present  $\frac{1}{3}$  voting power.

The updated agenda was approved (Max Durtschi motioned to approve, Gen. Knight seconded, and the motion carried unanimously).

A conflict of interest disclosure was asked for, none were noted.

The October meeting minutes were approved (Jerry Baltzell motioned, Max Durtschi seconded, and the motion carried unanimously).

Bob Hall provided an update on the Foundation, noting growth and the upcoming Olympic trips.

Sara Donatello gave an update from media and communications. She noted the Blue Chip media documentary work, increased communications efforts and success there, as well as upcoming plans for more in-season content with graphic designer and videographer. She also noted increased social media engagement.

Jack Gierhart gave an update on Q1 financials and presented the finalized FY25 Audit. The Audit committee recommended the approval of the audit and Max motioned to approve the audit, Jerry seconded the motion and the audit was approved unanimously.



Lowell Bailey gave a High Performance update, focusing on the great first trimester performances, ski service work/focus, and Olympic preparation. He also highlighted a few changes for the National Team criteria for the 2026-27 training season. The pre-qualification criteria for the 2026-27 World Cup trimester 1 as well as the pre-season camp pre-qualification were presented. Tim Burke also presented the Junior National Team criteria, as it has not changed much from the previous years.

The ICC recommended the Board approve these criteria (*2026 Senior National Team Selection Criteria, Junior National team 2026, and Pre-Qualification Standards for Pre-Season Selection Camp 2026/27 Season & Pre-Qualification Standards for WC 1-3 2026/27 Season*) and Phyllis motioned for approval, Max seconded the motion. Kelsey Dickinson asked a question regarding the prequalification numbers, which Lowell explained further. The motion was unanimously approved, with Kelsey Dickinson abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Tim Burke provided a Development and Juniors update, focusing on upcoming trials races in Lake Placid and international trips. He also noted the Eastern Regional Points pilot program aimed at increasing regional participation for young athletes. He also provided an update on year two of the Women's Coaching Initiative, with five women attending various trips.

John Farra provided a Sport Development update. He noted the increased numbers of people using the Center platform (2500), completing various courses we've completed and posted on the Center. Additionally he mentioned the piloting of a Laser Rifle Challenge to run at Spring Nationals, and the increased number of programs utilizing the laser rifles during the season.

Kelsey Dickinson provided an athlete representative update, focusing on the momentum from the World Cup results, better communication and understanding of criteria and races, as well as appreciation of the staff-athlete communication.

An Executive Session was called and the general meeting ended at approximately 4pm MT.