



USA Racquetball Board of Directors Meeting -- MINUTES
Monday, June 24, 2024, 5:30 pm MT
Via Zoom

Welcome -- Stewart Solomon

Meeting called to order 5:34 pm MT

(A quorum was achieved; advance notice was given of the meeting)

Roll Call – Cheryl Kirk

Stewart Solomon (President)	X
Tony Prater (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
Erika Manilla (Athlete Rep)	X
Janel Tisinger-Ledkins (Athlete Rep)	X
Slemo Warigon	X
Mike Grisz (Executive Director/ex officio)	X
Michelle Key (Athlete Rep, Team USA AC Alternate/ex officio))	--

Guest Presenter: U.S. Team Head Coach Pablo Fajre

Approval of Minutes – Cheryl Kirk

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the May 21, 2024, Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes
Seconded by Slemo Warigon

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passes

Conflicts of Interest Review/Reminder– Cheryl Kirk

**Directors were reminded to abstain/recuse themselves on topics that are a conflict of interest. Each Board members has the duty to adhere to the USA Racquetball Conflict of Interest Policy as an Affiliated Person. The Board will be formally trained on this topic by the USOPC at our Board meeting on October 7th. The meeting requires 100% attendance.

A spreadsheet of each member's disclosed conflicts was sent 6/14/24; in a discussion of the coming audit, USOPC Compliance Group recommends letters be sent to each Board member individually from the Ethics Committee (ExCom). This is forthcoming.

Executive Committee Update – Stewart Solomon

- Due to a recent phishing scam, Stewart asked Board members to be cautious if they receive emails asking for money or information.
- High level overview of case statement
- Executive Director job description was provided to the Board for their review and input by 7/5/24. No plans to post immediately.
- National Rules Commissioner term is expired (three years per the bylaws). Will be taking next steps to post the position. Cheryl to provide prior materials for reference (2021).

Executive Director Update – Mike Grisz

- National events made between \$35-50k this year. Lost money on Collegiates because of spring training in AZ. The rest were profitable.
- IRF Worlds update – San Antonio (late August).
- 3WallBall: Jonathan will represent USA Racquetball in Las Vegas (September).
- National Events 2025 schedule confirmed except for Juniors. High Schools in Portland, Intercollegiates at NC State, National Indoor in Pleasanton (singles, doubles, US Team qualifying), Juniors projected for University of MN.
- Financial audit for 2022 done as of the end of April. The audit for 2023 should be complete by the end of July/early August.
- COGEO case statement has been updated. The case statement is a donor deck. The Board must decide how to leverage this.
- Group Housing contract has been signed for 2025-26; no increases in fees.
- The Events Committee has been asked to make a decision about a shirt company for 2025 events.
- Mike has identified an individual who can provide marketing and social media service. Would supplement Aimee's efforts.
- Manilla Athletics quarterly report on junior programming was received and sent to the Board. (A short discussion took place about the benefits of this program and the need to replicate.)
- Funding for the Athlete Development Program funded by Geoff Peters is nearly depleted (about \$10k left). An athlete representative stressed the need for the program to continue.

Mike Grisz exited the call.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS / UPDATES

U.S. Team Head Coach Pablo Fajre joined the meeting

U.S. Team Committee – Cheryl Kirk, Pablo Fajre
The committee met on 6/19/24.

- 1. Junior Team Handbook 2024-2025 – Cheryl identified several minor revisions that were proposed after extensive work and review last year.**

Motion by Ro-el Cordero to approve the updated 2024-2025 U. S. JUNIOR RACQUETBALL TEAM PROCEDURES & PROTOCOLS HANDBOOK as recommended to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball U.S. Team Committee on June 24, 2024.

Seconded by: Sandy
Discussion: None
Vote: Motion passed

Slemo Warigon exited the meeting at 7:20 pm

2. Approval of U.S. Team Delegation to the XXII IRF World Racquetball Championships in San Antonio, Texas, USA, August 23-31, 2024.

Cheryl explained the IRF's IWGA World Games document and as yet undetermined selection process for TWG 2025 in Chengdu, China.

U.S. Team Head Coach Pablo Fajre presented the committee-approved U.S. Team/Delegation. Daniel De La Rosa (singles/mixed doubles); Jake Bredenbeck (singles); Sebastian Fernandez (doubles); Adam Manilla (doubles); Kelani Lawrence (singles/doubles); Michelle Key (singles); Hollie Scott (doubles/mixed doubles). Jen Meyer (assistant coach); Brent Huff (athletic trainer); Jonathan Greenberg (team leader).

Motion by Cheryl Kirk to approve the U.S. Team Delegation to the IRF World Championships, San Antonio, Texas, August 23-31, 2024, as recommended to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball U.S. Team Committee via Head Coach Pablo Fajre on June 24, 2024.

Seconded by: Ro-el Cordero

Discussion surrounding the qualifying process for international competition. Pablo Fajre described the selection and accompanying rationale. A suggestion was made for a group to discuss/analyze the formation of teams for competitions.

Vote: Motion passed

Note: Erika Manilla exited the call during the discussion phase of the above motion due to a scheduling constraint.

3. Discuss accommodations for two athletes at IRF Worlds who reside in San Antonio close to the YMCA host facility and wish to stay at their home instead of the host hotel. This comes under the heading of special permission in an unprecedented situation. No cost savings involved either way. Nothing in the current Handbook to disallow. The USOPC has no concerns. This is a consideration for next year's Handbook potential revision. No vote was taken.

U.S. Team Head Coach Pablo Fajre exited the meeting at 8:27 pm

Finance Committee – Sandy Rios

Documents received in advance of the meeting: RAC_2024 P&L By Class_As of 6.10.24; RAC_Financials Statements_April 2024; USAR_AP_6.12.24

- Process taking place to change banks and move Sandy and Stewart onto the association's accounts.
- Stewart created a spreadsheet month by month for a closer view.

Election Committee – Tony Prater

A vacated Board Appointed position is available. This process is the responsibility of the Election Committee to identify and vet candidates for the Board's consideration. The Board was asked to bring suggestions for potential candidates to Tony as Election Committee Chair.

Legislative Committee – Cheryl Kirk (Chair)

Documents received in advance of the meeting: Gifts and Entertainment Policy and Bylaws Revisions (sent June 6 to satisfy 15-day notification requirement in the bylaws); Legislative Committee Bylaws and Policy Revisions Report and Voting Synopsis.

Gifts and Entertainment Policy

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended USA Racquetball Gifts and Entertainment Policy revisions as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on June 24, 2024.

Seconded by: Tony Prater

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed

Bylaws Revisions

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended Article VI, 601.0.A.2.c (Amateur Sports Organization) bylaws revisions as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on June 24, 2024.

Seconded by Jake Bredenbeck

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended Article VII, 701.0.E (Board of Directors – Independent Perspective) bylaws revisions as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on June 24, 2024.

Seconded by Tony Prater

Discussion: Relative to #8, a definition of “protected competition” was requested. Regarding #9, a question was raised regarding membership category language (USA Racquetball does not have multiple membership categories).

Vote: Motion tabled with the agreement of Sandy and Tony so that the Legislative Committee could gain clarification from the USOPC Compliance Group on this proposed revision.

Motion by Sandy Rios to approve the recommended Article VII, 701.0.E (Affiliated Member Position) bylaws revisions as brought to the USA Racquetball Board of Directors by the USA Racquetball Legislative Committee on June 24, 2024.

Seconded by Ro-el Cordero

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed

Case Statement Review – Stewart Solomon (See previous email from Mike Grisz)

Due to time constraints, a Board action item was created:

Action Item: Board members to review the case statement, make comments or no comments, and agree to stand behind it. Give thoughts on what the Board can do to implement and leverage.

Due Date: Two weeks, by July 5, 2024

Brief discussion: How does the case statement get combined in with the One44 Group work?

It's a high level donor deck. Build out the plans and programs underneath these -- needs more details, objectives, actions.

Jake Bredenbeck exited the call 9:01 pm

Tom Fuhrmann exited the call 9:04 pm

Review of Actions from One44 Group – Stewart Solomon

One44 Group – USA Racquetball Growth & Success Model (May 2024)

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was tabled until the next Board meeting.

Other New Business – None

Next Meeting – August 5, 2024

Motion by Tony Prater to adjourn

Seconded by Sandy Rios

Adjourned 8:09 pm MT

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RECORD OF ELECTRONIC VOTE OUTSIDE OF BOARD MEETING

USAR BOD Motion Discussion Vote US Junior Team Head Coach

May 28-June 4, 2024

Motion by Erika Manilla to approve the U.S. Team Committee’s recommendation for Junior National Team Head Coach.

Seconded by Slemo Warigon

Discussion regarding what other candidates were considered and what they brought to the table.

Suggestion that for the sake of historical consistency, consider the initial term to end on 12/31/24 vs. 12/31/2025. Those making the original motion and second agreed to amend the initial term to end on 12/31/24 before the vote.

Vote: Motion passed
