



Member, United States
Olympic & Paralympic Committee

USA Team Handball board meeting

Agenda for the 8-Oct-2024 meeting

Board members in attendance

- Marianne Acker
- Patrick Jalabert – interim chair
- Mark Ortega
- Jennifer Fithian – acting as secretary

Board members excused

- Lawrence Taylor
- Ebiye Udo-Udoma

USATH Staff in attendance

- Mike King

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 11am MT by Patrick Jalabert, interim chair. Mr. Jalabert thanked board members for joining, and reminded them that several topics would be discussed, as detailed in the shared agenda.

Agenda item #1: Board Status

- Mr. Taylor had sent his resignation earlier that day.
 - The board now needed to fill four independent seats.
- Dave Buckman was reviewing three independent candidates.
 - Mr. King flagged the importance of filling the audit seats
- Mr. Branick had initiated his severance package and stepped back on paternity leave
- AAC needed to nominate (2) athlete representatives to the NRC

Action item(s)

- *AAC will send Mr. Jalabert (2) athlete representative for the NRC*

- *Mr. Jalabert will reach out to Mr. Branick for all NGB documents*
- *Mr. King will begin to create a centralized location for NGB documents.*

Agenda item #2: NRC

The board had been requested by our NRC chair, Tugomir Anusic, to rule on whether a pair of referees should be allowed to attend an upcoming IHF training event that they have been invited to.

- The Board discussed the eligibility of two referees, currently non-citizens and non-permanent residents, continuing to represent the United States in international handball competitions. Both referees are committed to pursuing residency to fulfill eligibility requirements, with one already in the application process. If needed, they may sign a formal letter of intent to pursue this path.
- The International Handball Federation (IHF) has extended an invitation to these referees for education and evaluation, and will cover all associated costs for their participation, with USA Team Handball's involvement limited to providing official approval.
- Additionally, there are no restrictions on the number of referee pairs the U.S. may send to such training events, so this does not impact other potential participants.

Amendment Options:

Amendment 1

X.1.e (i) Referees, who would otherwise be in violation of X.1.e, shall remain in compliance and eligible for nomination and certification as Continental Referees if they (1) represented the United States at the Continental or International level prior to January 1, 2024, (2) maintain residency in the United States with intention to pursue Lawful Permanent Residency Status or US Citizenship, and (3) otherwise conform to regulations of this Constitution.

Amendment 2

X.2.b(i) Referees, who would otherwise be in violation of X.2.b, shall remain in compliance and eligible for nomination and certification as International Referees if they (1) represented the United States at the Continental or International level prior to January 1, 2024, (2) maintain residency in the United States with intention to pursue Lawful Permanent Residency Status or US Citizenship, and (3) otherwise conform to regulations of this Constitution.

Motion

A motion was made to adopt the amendment language in Amendment Option 1 and 2. Duly seconded, The motion passed unanimously.

Action item

Board will need to provide written decisions to be included in the constitution.

Agenda #3: Mr. King Updates

- Club competitions up and running (70 new members)
- Upcoming clarification on SafeSport Policy to members from Mr. King
- IHF Trophy for Youth & Junior Men Forthcoming
- Celebration scheduled for Oct. 11 for Wheelchair National Team in AL.
- Permanent training site opportunity for national teams in discussion
- TV production interest popping up to follow US National Teams
- Meetings to discuss collegiate opportunities
- Exploring July Event in US
 - ~40 Teams interested in coming
 - Intended venue could host 120
- Upcoming meeting with Verizon
- Social media presence need
 - The NGB needs to figure out how to solve this issue in the immediate future.
- CEO Announcement requested to be sent out soon. Need to find a date.

Additional Updates

- Ms. Acker was contacted about a documentary about handball in the US. She will share information with Mr. King and Mr. Jalabert.