



Speed Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2023

In Attendance:

- Patty Leazier
- Mary Allmond
- Mikey Ratliff
- McKenzie Browne
- Erin Jackson
- Kelly Springer
- Deb Alpers
- Tosha Hill

Missing: Robin Pendergast/Jay Ingram

Conflicts:

Kelly/Mikey: Coach of an athlete that may be a sprint alternate.

World Team Alternate discussion

- This meeting is to discuss alternates attending the World Championships
 - Declines must be in writing, no exceptions
 - Page 31, SR442.2 address declines/alternates
 - Jr Ladies – have had verbal decline, but nothing written
 - Sr Man – social media decline, nothing written
- If we receive written declination
 - Vacated position would be a distance position

Discussion around filling any formally declined positions: We should fill the spot with an alternate (Tosha/Deb). The Junior team coach has already reviewed the races for Worlds and does not see a need to add an additional skater to the roster to fill that spot.

No medal is needed for an alternate to be slotted into a declined position.

A coach attending as a parent will get some exposure to coaching at an international meet.

The only way for an alternate to get to skate the marathon would be if they filled an open spot.

The athlete in the sprint position would have been the athlete in the distance position if distance would have been chosen first, but has a distance medal – and contradicts what was decided last year.

A motion was made by Kelly not to fill the spot if a written declination is not received by the deadline, Mikey seconded.

Not filling: 111111

Filling: 1

Matthew Fortner may have sent his written declination in to USARS, but need to confirm. There may be another Senior Man decline coming tomorrow. All declines must be formally received by 4:00pm.

Discussion if senior men and alternates decline: Distance races will likely not be affected, but sprinters would need additional support, and we should possibly consider adding a 100m specialist. Both senior men alternates have indicated that they will not attend. In that case, we have a skater that could be the alternate in the 100m. He was also the 100m specialist last year and did not perform well or help the team. We need to make sure to follow our criteria, but there is no guidance for what to do if all alternates decline. A specialized 100m athlete would be utilized so that the remaining sprinters would have fresh legs for other sprint races that same day. Taking someone out of overall points order would be bad optics. Alternates would have to officially decline in writing by 4:00pm tomorrow in order to explore adding a 100m specialist just for that race – otherwise we will not have a 2nd senior man to skate the 100m. Need to be aware of the position we would put ourselves in if we move someone up into that spot. No vote needed, this is just a what if discussion. We should revisit the selection procedure so that we have more guidance around issues like this. There are a couple of people that have some ideas around reviewing/improving the World Team selection criteria and will share with us once we get through Worlds this year.

Note that we are waiting on one senior lady, two senior men, one junior lady all to respond.

The google form that the team members must fill out now includes information for selecting captains.

Kelly/Mikey will be added to the shared documents folder. They have created their own document and will need to merge, and then create a page to track changes and reasons for change.

Deb made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Kelly seconded. Meeting adjourned.