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## USA Team Handball board meeting

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Meeting minutes for the 9-Apr-2025 executive meeting

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### **Board members in attendance**

- Olga Chaikouskaya
- Julia Taylor
- Jason Borchik
- Andre Carter
- David Eldridge
- Evan Gitomer
- Patrick Jalabert – interim chair, acting as secretary

### **Board members excused**

- Chris Brase
- Andrew Donlin

### **USATH Staff in attendance**

- Michael King

### **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 11 am 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 – Strategic planning**

- In preparation for this meeting, several groups of board members had met and drafted sections of an updated strategic plan.
- The board's overall consensus was to focus on a 3-5 year plan, acknowledging the changing landscape around the NGB, as opposed to the previously established 10-year roadmap.
- The board aligned on submitting a broad vision of the organization's strategy to the USOPC, as part of the quadrennial audit process, and focusing on establishing an operational plan with measurable goals to ensure continued monitoring and accountability.

- The board expected to engage the greater handball community for input while drafting areas of the operational plan.
- The board reviewed individual sections prepared by sub-groups of directors, and made some minor changes to fully align a cohesive vision.

**Action item**

*Mr. Jalabert was tasked with consolidating all draft work, feedback, and notes into a final version to be circulated to the board for approval prior to submission to the USOPC.*

**Agenda item #2 – Board leadership**

- In preparation for this meeting, Mr. Jalabert had requested that all nine (9) members of the fully constituted board of directors consider their role and interest in leadership on the board.
- Mr. King, as a staff member not a board member, exited the meeting.
- The board discussed the recent and upcoming challenges facing the organization, in order to align on the leadership structure for the board.

**Motion**

*A motion was made to name Patrick Jalabert as President and Chairman of the board, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Motion**

*Prior to the meeting, Mr. Donlin, who was unable to attend, had proposed a motion to name Julia Taylor as Vice-Chair of the board. That motion was brought up and duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Agenda item #3 – Approval of meeting minutes**

- Meeting minutes for March 12, 2025 and March 26, 2025 had been circulated ahead of time for review.
- No changes were requested.

**Motion**

*A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of the March 12, 2025 meeting, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed. Mr. Eldridge and Mr. Gitomer, having not been part of that meeting, abstained from voting.*

**Motion**

*A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of the March 26, 2025 meeting, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.*

***Action item***

*Mr. King was tasked with coordinating with the staff to publish approved meeting minutes to the USA Team Handball website.*

**Open floor discussion**

- The board briefly discussed the need to release the official announcements of Mr. Eldridge and Mr. Gitomer's addition to the board.

***Action item***

*Mr. Jalabert was tasked with following up on the status of those announcements.*

- Mr. King provided a short debrief of the recent SafeSport audit, and noted that final results were not expected for several weeks.
- Mr. King provided a brief update on the upcoming USOPC quadrennial audit. The board emphasized their commitment to supporting this activity, in order to ensure the staff could pursue other activities for the development of the organization.
- Mr. Borchik emphasized the need for a calendar of events, and requested that it be included in the board meeting agenda, in a similar fashion to the upcoming submissions deadlines.

*The board meeting was adjourned at 12 pm MT.*