

# **U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors**

## **Conference Call Agenda – FINAL**

**Tuesday, May 28, 2019; 8:00PM ET**

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of May 1 and May 4, 2019 Board of Directors Minutes and ROA
5. President's Update/Governing Council follow-up
  - a. General
  - b. Audit Committee – final appointee
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Vice Presidents' Reports (East, Midwest, Pacific Coast)
8. Group Coordinators' Reports
  - a. Membership Development
  - b. Technical and Officials
  - c. Admin/Legal (including RFA)
  - d. Athlete Services
  - e. International
9. Executive Director's Report
10. New Business
11. Executive Session
12. Next Meeting – Conference Call – Monday, July 1, 2019; 8pm ET

**U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors**  
**Via Conference Call**  
**May 28, 2019, 8:00 p.m. ET**

**Present**

Samuel Auxier (Past President), Gretchen Bonnie, Anne Cammett (President), Kristin Arneson Cutler, Janis Engel, Christine Fowler-Binder, Lynn Goldman, Troy Goldstein, Bob Horen (ISU Representative), Mark Ladwig, Jenna Longo, Bobby Martin, Colin McManus (non-voting athlete), Heather Nemier (joined at 8:15 p.m. ET), Richard Perez, David Raith (Executive Director), Douglas Razzano, Karen Terry Perreault, Alan Wolf

**Guests**

Juliet Newcomer

**I. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting**

- A. Cammett welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
- B. Bonnie took roll call, and a quorum was confirmed.
- C. The agenda was approved.
- D. The May 1 and May 4 minutes were approved. The May 4 report of action was approved.

**II. President's Update/Governing Council Follow-Up**

- A. Cammett notified the board that the action to review compensating officials and the action to review the policy to announce and publish officials' cities and states at competitions are both moving forward with the applicable committees.
- B. Raith notified the board that the Governing Council Survey is expected to go out tomorrow with a deadline of June 14, and the results are expected to be available for review on the July 1 board call.
- C. Cammett notified the board that Engel has agreed to serve on the Audit Committee and then made the following motion:

**<Request for Action>** to approve the president's appointment of Janis Engel to serve on the 2019-20 Audit Committee. (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent)

**III. Treasurer's Report**

Goldstein reported that the financials are on target through April 30, 2019. He then reviewed key drivers in the Statement of Activities.

<8:15 p.m. ET, Nemier joined the call>

**IV. Group Coordinators Reports**

- A. Membership Development Group
  1. Wolf announced that, as of April 30, U.S. Figure Skating has 194,305 total members, including 136,419 Learn to Skate USA members, which exceeds the record set last season for Learn to Skate USA and is within 2,000 members of the highest total membership overall. Wolf reported that membership is up in every category except regular membership, which is down by only 20 members.
  2. Wolf notified the board that he presented at NARCE last week and felt it was one of the best conferences that the U.S. Ice Rink Association has run.
  3. Wolf informed the board that Taoti Creative has met with staff and is moving forward with the new website.
- B. Technical and Officials
  1. Perez notified the Board of Directors that Technical Notification 228 (five-minute warm-up for juvenile free skate and intermediate short program) and Technical Notification 229 (minimum total element score to qualify for senior events at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships) have been posted.
  2. Perez provided information on two new potential IJS microsystems. Perez reviewed the pros and cons of using two systems and notified the board that he and Competitions Committee Chair Kathleen Krieger recommend using the AMX system as the official approved U.S. Figure Skating system. There were no objections to this.

C. Administrative/Legal

1. Perreault notified the board that the SafeSport, Ethics and Grievance Committees have been working together on their committee rosters and have made sure that they have athletes representing all disciplines on the SafeSport Committee.
2. Perreault notified the board that SafeSport Committee Chair Patricia St. Peter has met with headquarters staff to work on expanded education goals for the next year, including both content and format. Perreault also announced that Shelbi Meyer and John Anderson are planning approximately 12 in-person educational seminars at camps and events around the country that will also be open to member clubs.
3. Perreault reported on the current work undertaken by the Ethics and Grievance committees.
4. Perreault reviewed an amendment to rule GR 1.03 to add the SafeSport Committee chair to the list of people who can be notified of harassment and then made the following motion:

**<Request for Action>** to approve the amendment to rule GR 1.03 to add the SafeSport Committee chair to the list of people who can be notified of harassment. (See report of action for full details). (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

5. Perreault notified the board that the U.S. Center for SafeSport has recommended further modifications to the U.S. Figure Skating SafeSport Handbook. Raith notified the board that once the changes are confirmed, the updated handbook will be sent to the board. Cutler then made the following motion:

**<Request for Action>** to approve an updated U.S. Figure Skating SafeSport Program Handbook (from the current Handbook dated May 14, 2019), pending final sign off by the Administrative/Legal Group coordinator, the SafeSport Committee chair and U.S. Figure Skating internal legal counsel. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

6. Ladwig asked if we have anything in our rules requiring that the information provided in a background check be accurate. Raith responded that he will look into this.

D. International

1. Horen notified the board that the International Group met at Governing Council and the subcommittees have been formed; the Synchronized Skating Subcommittee has already had a conference call.
2. Horen reported that the International Committee has selected the international competitions, and availability forms will be going out soon.
3. Horen notified the board that calls have been held with skaters who will be eligible for the Grand Prix in advance of the Grand Prix Selection Meeting that is scheduled for June 20 in France.
4. Horen informed the board that the ISU Single and Pair Skating and Ice Dance Technical Committees met last week and have been publishing a lot of ISU Communications. Horen then reviewed some of the specific communications.
5. Horen notified the board that Auxier is working on a project to clarify the bye procedures, and Auxier provided some additional details.
6. Horen and Auxier reviewed a pilot project for this season of the International Group and SafeSport Committee to formalize how team leaders are selected for the junior and advanced novice international competitions.

E. Athlete Services

1. Goldman notified the board that the discipline committees have been working on their rosters and updating their technical documents, the majority of which have been posted.
2. Goldman informed the board that the deadline for National Qualifying Series (NQS) registration is tonight, and entries have already exceeded 1,400 skaters.
3. The Dance Development and Technical Committee is working on a restart option for the Tea-Time Foxtrot (the way it was created only allows for one pattern).
4. Goldman reported that she has asked the discipline committees to work proactively with the Sports Science and Medicine Committee earlier in the season, before any issues may arise.
5. Binder reviewed the PSA International Conference, which took place this past weekend.
6. Goldman notified the board that she sent Ladwig the ISU Communication about the financial assistance available from the ISU Development Commission for athletes in transition to other skating-related roles.
7. Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC) Report

- a. Ladwig reported that he attended the PSA International Conference and saw the U.S. Figure Skating/USOC SafeSport panels presented to elite coaches. He stated that a lot of good information was shared.
- b. Ladwig announced that the Athletes Advisory Committee vice chairs for 2019-20 are Tessa Hedges (synchronized), Katie McBeath (ladies), Marissa Castelli (pairs), Richard Dornbush (men) and Anastasia Cannuscio (dance).
- c. Ladwig reviewed the 3A Award winners from last year. The overall winner was Anthony Ying (synchronized), and the discipline winners were Caitlin Ha (ladies), Isabelle Goldstein (pairs), Samir Mallya (men), Ethan Peal (dance) and Katie Champion (synchronized).
- d. Ladwig announced that the first quarter call of the new season will be Thursday, May 30, and will review the Rodchenkov Act, and the USOC, as well as remind AAC members of the importance of supporting the U.S. Center for SafeSport and helping them improve for the benefit of athletes.
- e. Ladwig reminded the board that athlete members on all committees will have to be reviewed and approved by ballot and reported that he hopes to improve the process in future years by gathering athlete interest earlier.
- f. Ladwig also informed the board that there are still some concerns about the Athlete Election Procedures that are being reviewed.
- g. Ladwig will be creating documentation this year to help speed the on-boarding of future chairs.

## **V. Vice Presidents' Reports**

### **A. Eastern**

1. Nemier stated that she, Cutler and Engel met at Governing Council to set the first few VP calls, and notified the board that the first VP calls will be held the week of June 17 and will include a SafeSport update and information about the first Excel Festival.
2. Nemier informed the board that she will be judging at the Lake Placid Summer Competition at the end of June.

### **B. Midwestern**

1. Cutler stated that she is continuing to learn the job; she has communicated a lot with Lainie DeMore and Patricia St. Peter (previous Midwest vice presidents), and has updated the Midwest Facebook page.

### **C. Pacific Coast**

1. Engel thanked Sharon Watson (previous Pacific Coast vice president) and Nemier for bringing her up to speed on the role of vice president, and notified the board that she is working with Lexi Rohner to update the Pacific Coast Facebook page.
2. Engel notified the board that she was a presenter at the PSA Conference Elite Track and reviewed some of the additional presentations she attended.
3. Engel reported that she has been communicating with some of the Southern California Interclub board members over concerns that their competition entry numbers have dropped significantly. Goldman notified the board that even some of the National Qualifying Series (NQS) competitions are experiencing lower entries and asked the vice presidents to pass along any concerns they receive to Competitions Committee Chair Kathleen Krieger and Mia Corsini at headquarters so everything can be reviewed at the end of the NQS.

## **VI. Executive Director's Report**

- A. Raith provided an update on the proposed Team Challenge Cup competition for next April and notified the board that the Events Advisory Board has been doing site visits for the 2021 and 2022 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.
- B. Raith notified the board that the USOC Audit for financial matters and for grievance and SafeSport compliance matters took place last week. This was different than the U.S. Center for SafeSport Audit that Perreault mentioned in her Administrative/Legal Group Report. The previous USOC audit that was done this past September is also being finalized. Raith stated all NGBs are undergoing these various audits.
- C. Raith notified the board that, going forward, the U.S. Center for SafeSport has informed the NGBs they will only publish temporary measures (formerly interim measures) that relate to or are intended to protect the larger sport community, as opposed to those that relate to a particular party. Therefore, for example, the Center will publish temporary measures such as "no unsupervised coaching of minor athletes," but will not publish temporary measures when it relates to a particular party, such as when only a No Contact Directive is implemented. The Center also said it will provide more detail regarding what the temporary measure actually is when it publishes such a measure.

- D. Raith read a formal statement made by U.S. Figure Skating reiterating the organization's support of athlete well-being and athlete safety.
- E. Raith notified the board that the blue binders of board information have been mailed to the new board members.
- F. Raith informed the board that technology and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Museum project will be covered in detail on the July 1 board call.

**VII. New Business – None**

<9:22 p.m. ET, Horen, Raith and Newcomer left the call>

**VIII. Executive Session**

The next business meeting of the board will be via conference call on Monday, July 1, 2019, at 8 p.m. ET.

Call concluded at 9:40 p.m. ET

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gretchen Bonnie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small mark above the 'e' in Bonnie.

Gretchen Bonnie, Secretary