

U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors

Conference Call Agenda – FINAL

Monday, September 9, 2019; 8:00PM ET

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of August 5, 2019 Board of Directors Minutes and ROA
5. President's Update
 - a. Foundation Spending Policy - RFA
 - b. Champs Camp
 - c. Junior Grand Prix – Lake Placid
6. Treasurer's Report
 - a. 2018-19 Year-End Preliminary Financials
 - b. 2020 FY Year-to-Date Financials
 - c. Audit Update
7. Vice Presidents' Reports (East, Midwest, Pacific Coast)
8. Group Coordinators' Reports
 - a. Athlete Services
 - b. Administrative/Legal
 - i. General
 - ii. U.S. Center for SafeSport Audit
 - iii. SafeSport Education Update
 - iv. Grievance RFA
 - c. Membership Development
 - d. Technical & Officials
 - e. International
9. Athlete Advisory Committee Update
10. Executive Director's Report
 - a. USOPC Update; USOPC Compliance Checklist
 - b. Events Advisory Board Update and RFA
 - c. 100th Anniversary Update
 - d. 2021 Governing Council Location RFA
 - e. Travel Policy Update
 - f. Other
11. New Business
12. Executive Session
13. Next Meeting – Conference Call – Monday, October 7, 2019 – 8pm ET/5pm PT

U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors
Via Conference Call
September 9, 2019, 8:00 p.m. ET

Present

Samuel Auxier (Past President), Gretchen Bonnie, Anne Cammett (President), Kristin Arneson Cutler, Christine Fowler-Binder (joined at 8:20 p.m.), Janis Engel, Lynn Goldman, Troy Goldstein, Bob Horen (ISU Representative), Mark Ladwig, Jenna Longo, Bobby Martin, Heather Nemier, Richard Perez, David Raith (Executive Director), Douglas Razzano (joined at 8:09 p.m. ET), Karen Terry Perreault, Alan Wolf

Absent

Colin McManus (non-voting athlete)

Guest

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 August 5 minutes and report of action were approved.

II. President's Update

<8:09 p.m. ET, Razzano joined the call>

- A. Cammett requested Goldstein review the rationale of the new Foundation Spending Policy and the process taken by the foundation working group to come up with the current recommendation. Goldstein then reviewed the financial results in the proposed formula in detail. Auxier and Raith provided some additional information. Cammett then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve the new Foundation Spending Policy (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent)

- B. Cammett reviewed Champs Camp, including the keynote presentation by Evan Lysacek and the new format/schedule. There was additional positive feedback, including feedback on the new location.

<8:20 p.m. ET, Fowler-Binder joined the call>

- C. Cammett reviewed the Junior Grand Prix in Lake Placid, including the performances by Team USA. Cammett reported on Alysa Liu's quad Lutz and the two gold medals – one by Liu in the ladies event and one by Nguyen/Kolesnik in the dance event. Cammett also reported that attendees, including international officials, enjoyed having the event in Lake Placid.

III. Treasurer's Report

- A. Goldstein reported that the board will get a full, written report of the 2018-19 year-end preliminary financials in time for the October board call. Goldstein then reported that the final results were favorable, and reviewed key items.
- B. Goldstein reported that, for the 2020 fiscal year financials through July 31, 2019, revenues are on track, but expenses are slightly higher than budget due to timing issues. He then reviewed key items.
- C. Goldstein notified the board that the Audit Committee held an initial call last week, and announced that Longo has been re-appointed as the Audit Committee chair for this coming season. Goldstein also notified the board that the audit is scheduled to be held the weeks of Sept. 16 and Sept. 23, and to expect a report in October.

IV. Vice Presidents' Reports

- A. Eastern
 - 1. Nemier reported that the VPs did not hold calls in August.
 - 2. Nemier notified the board that she was the chief referee at the Potomac Open in Ashburn, Virginia, and stated that the competition went really well.

3. Nemier announced that her next VP call will be September 17, and the topic will be regionals and sectionals with the chief and assistant referees for the Eastern qualifying competitions and some staff members from headquarters on the call.
- B. Midwestern
1. Cutler confirmed that she did not hold a VP call in August.
 2. Cutler reported that she continues to work on the scheduling of nonqualifying competitions in the Midwest. Cutler also reported that she received some feedback on EMS from one of the competitions in the Midwest and has provided that feedback to headquarters.
 3. Cutler announced that her next VP call will be September 18, and will also be about regionals and sectionals with the chief and assistant referees for the Midwestern qualifying competitions and some staff members from headquarters on the call.
- C. Pacific Coast
1. Engel announced that her next VP call will be September 17, and will also be about regionals and sectionals with the chief and assistant referees for the Pacific Coast qualifying competitions and some staff members from headquarters on the call.
 2. Engel reported that she continues to receive feedback on EMS. She has also heard discussions about competition grant money in relation to the requirements for hosting qualifying events; and participated in discussions about strategic planning, new program development and SafeSport in the media.

V. Group Coordinators Reports

A. Athlete Services

1. Goldman notified the board that the technical committees and Coaches Committee are beginning to present their rule update webinars for coaches.
2. Goldman reported that the Memorial Fund Committee continues to review the application to make sure the process is fair and equitable and is looking into an outside company to collect and verify the data (similar to other U.S. Figure Skating scholarship programs).

B. Administrative/Legal

1. Perreault reported on the current work undertaken by the Administrative/Legal Committees.
2. Perreault notified the board that the SafeSport Committee chair sent a letter to committee members today to schedule an in-person meeting.
3. Perreault reviewed a recommendation from the Grievance Committee and then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to concur with the recommendation of the chair of the Grievance Committee to a permanent ban of an individual from U.S. Figure Skating (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

4. Perreault reviewed the U.S. Center for SafeSport Draft Audit Report and informed the board that U.S. Figure Skating was fully compliant and essentially received a perfect score.
5. Perreault reviewed information that was provided to the board members in advance of the call regarding the U.S. Figure Skating SafeSport Education and Outreach Initiatives. Perreault then answered questions from other board members. Raith notified the board that the USOPC is looking into requiring SafeSport compliance from members of the media because of their access to athletes, and Perreault stated that she would ask Patricia St. Peter to add this to the agenda for the in-person SafeSport Committee meeting.

C. Membership Development Group

1. Wolf reviewed the membership numbers through the end of August and announced that U.S. Figure Skating is up approximately 2,600 members overall when compared to the same time last season.
2. Wolf reviewed the social media impressions, reaches, registrations, traffic and followers for various online campaigns, which are positive.
3. Wolf notified the board that he is on the phone with clubs almost daily and is also traveling to clubs to provide assistance.
4. Wolf reported that he has been working with John Cole and headquarters on scheduling Broadmoor Open, Chesapeake Open, National Theatre On Ice and the Excel Festival so they don't conflict.
5. Wolf was recently in discussions with the Pioneer Fund regarding the prize money for the U.S. Collegiate Championships in hopes of increasing the number of participants.
6. Wolf will be attending a meeting for the U.S. Ice Rink Association next month.

D. Technical and Officials

1. Perez notified the board that the Technical Panel Education Requirements (TPERs) are available, and webinars are scheduled for the month of September for singles, pairs, ice dance and data. The board asked some questions and provided some suggestions for next year's TPERs.
2. Perez reported that Linda Chihara has been leading the annual review of the technical notifications on the website.
3. Perez notified the board that a Technical Panel Continuing Education School will be held in Salt Lake City during the U.S. International Figure Skating Classic and U.S. Challenge Skate.
4. Perez reported that rule 2473 (D) has caused some confusion and will be clarified through housekeeping.
5. Perez announced that total entries for the 2020 qualifying season are 1,814, which are 98 fewer entries (approximately 5.3 percent) than the previous season.
6. Perez congratulated Mark Ladwig for achieving his regional singles/pairs referee appointment the day before the board meeting.

E. International

1. Horen reported on the current work of the International Committee.
2. Horen reported that the California Cup has enough teams committed to make it a viable ISU Challenger competition.
3. Horen provided some information about the new team leader training and reported that International Officials Selections Subcommittee Chair Deveny Deck would like to develop a certification that can be done every year.
4. Horen reported that the athlete release policy was reviewed by a working group, and the recommendation is to maintain the policy as currently written.
5. Horen provided an update on the status of an athlete who had requested a release.
6. Horen notified the board the remaining Team USA athlete entries for Skate America have been sent to the ISU and will be announced soon.
7. Horen notified the board that he spoke with St. Peter about some of the restrictions in the ISU Code of Ethics for acting ISU officials (ISU Communication 2265), and the board had additional discussions about the communication.

VI. Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC) Report

- A. Ladwig reported that he will hold an AAC call in November just before the in-person board meeting.
- B. Ladwig notified the board that Tessa Hedges led the writing of the next Athlete Corner for SKATING. Hedges has also written an article about balancing life and skating.
- C. Ladwig informed the board that he sent a letter of support for the Rodchenkov Act directly to Congress and also signed U.S. Figure Skating's letter of support for the NGB Council's position on the Rodchenkov Act.
- D. Ladwig reported that he is finalizing a support letter for the Gardner bill.
- E. Ladwig notified the board that the USOPC athlete definition is still an issue with USOPC AAC. Ladwig also reported that he will make a brief stop at the USOPC General Assembly this week and notified the board that Emily Hughes is the other athlete representative and will attend the entire meeting.
- F. Ladwig expressed appreciation that Ashley Wagner attended Champs Camp and reported that feedback was positive, and the mission of athlete protections is gaining acceptance. Ladwig also reported that he observed the SafeSport meeting for coaches and continues to see positive steps taken to adopt athlete protection policies and procedures.
- G. Ladwig informed the board that he was able to hold an athlete-only meeting at Champs Camp; although it was at the end of the day and shorter than Ladwig would like, the feedback was still positive.
- H. Ladwig has received positive feedback on the new bye policy.
- I. Ladwig reviewed feedback he has received on EMS.

VII. Executive Director's Report

- A. Raith notified the board that the USOPC is holding their annual General Assembly in Colorado Springs this week and reviewed some of the topics that will be discussed. Raith also reviewed the USOPC Compliance Checklist report. Raith also notified the board that we were also audited by the USOPC as part of a regular review that takes place every three years, and we are still waiting for that report.
- B. Raith reviewed the Events Advisory Board Update regarding the 2021 and 2022 U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Cutler then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve Nashville as the host of the 2022 U.S. Figure Skating Championships (15 yes, 0 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain)

- C. Raith provided an update on the planning for the 100th Anniversary, and asked that any board members interested in serving on the next working group email Cammett. Raith also reviewed the effects of the new Foundation Spending Policy on anniversary planning and the museum.
- D. Raith reviewed the proposed hotel locations for the 2021 Governing Council, and the board discussed the pros and cons of the different locations. Wolf then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve the Antlers Wyndham Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the site for the 2021 Governing Council (15 yes, 0 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain)

- E. Raith provided additional information on the pending updates to the U.S. Figure Skating Travel and Expense Policy and a plan to communicate with clubs in advance. Cutler and Engel offered to communicate the changes on the vice presidents' calls and Facebook pages.
- F. Raith informed the board that the NGB Council has put together a letter regarding the Rodchenkov Act for the NGBs to sign. U.S. Figure Skating will sign the letter.
- G. Raith notified the board that Newcomer will send a notice tomorrow that fall reports will be due October 1.

VIII. New Business – None

The next business meeting of the board will be via conference call on Monday, October 7, 2019, at 8 p.m. ET.

Call concluded at 10:02 p.m. ET

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gretchen Bonnie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gretchen Bonnie, Secretary