

U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors

Conference Call Agenda – FINAL

Monday, April 6, 2020; 7:00 p.m. ET
Via ZOOM Conference

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of March 9 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes and ROA, and Meeting Minutes and ROAs of Special Meetings of the Board of Directors March 16, March 18, March 23 and March 30.
5. President's Update
 - a. General
 - b. NQS Discussion
6. Executive Director's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Vice Presidents' Reports (Midwestern, Pacific Coast, Eastern)
9. 2020 Governing Council Preparation
 - a. Pre-Governing Council Timeline
 - b. Meeting Book – General/Governing Council Procedures
 - c. Convention Standing Rules for 2020 Meeting
 - d. Review of Proposed Bylaw Amendments
10. Group Coordinator Reports/Requests for Action (in Meeting Book)
 - a. Athlete Services
 - b. Membership Development
 - c. Administrative/Legal
 - d. Technical and Officials
 - e. International
11. Requests for Action (not in Meeting Book)
 - a. Suspension of coaches late fee for 2020-21 season (RFA regarding General Rule 4.04; formerly MR 5.14)
 - b. Sanction RFA
 - c. Other
12. New Business
13. Executive Session
14. Next meeting – Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, Monday, April 27, 2020, 8:00 p.m. ET - Via ZOOM Conferencing

U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors
Via Zoom Video Conferencing
Monday, April 6, 2020; 7 p.m. EDT

Present

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

Guests

Lisa Erle (Rules Committee chair, for requests for action), Juliet Newcomer, Kelly Vogtner

I. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting

- A. Cammett welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- B. Bonnie took roll call, and a quorum was confirmed.
- C. The agenda was adopted as amended.
- D. The March 9, 2020, minutes were approved, as were the March 16, March 18, March 23 and March 30 minutes from the special meetings of the board.
- E. The March 9, 2020, report of action was approved, as were the March 18, March 23 and March 30 reports of action from the special meetings of the board. (There were no actions taken on the March 16 special meeting.)

II. President's Update

- A. Cammett reported that there have been many good discussions since the March 30 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors and thanked everyone who's been involved with those.
- B. Cammett stressed the role and importance of our committees and then asked Perez to lead a discussion about the 2020 National Qualifying Series (NQS). Perez reviewed a memo from Competitions Committee Chair Kathleen Krieger that was sent to the board in advance of this meeting about the status of the NQS. The board then discussed the recommendations from the Competitions Committee, and agreed to support their updated plan, dates and deadlines for the NQS. The board reiterated it will continue to monitor the effects of COVID-19 on the organization and will continue to address all issues in the best interests of the athletes and the organization.

III. Executive Director's Report

- A. Raith reviewed updates to 2020 skating programs.
- B. Raith reviewed an updated Board of Directors meeting schedule and specifically pointed out the special meeting on April 27 and the meeting on May 11 during the week of Governing Council.
- C. Raith provided an update on the 100th Anniversary celebration.
- D. Raith also provided information on a virtual competition that was held by the Lake City Figure Skating Club.
- E. Raith reported that U.S. Figure Skating submitted its vote to have the ISU Congress postponed until 2021 (as opposed to having it canceled).
- F. Raith reported that online meetings are being held with the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) two or three times a week during this time period, and either he and/or Cammett attends these meetings.
- G. Raith notified the board that U.S. Figure Skating is working to submit an application for a SBA loan under the new Paycheck Protection Program with the new CARES Act/stimulus legislation.
- H. Raith informed the board that May is mental health awareness month. The USOPC has put together a mental health task force, of which Rachael Flatt is a member, and U.S. Figure Skating also plans to have messaging on this topic in May.
- I. Raith provided information to the board on how the staff is working remotely.

IV. Treasurer's Report/Budget Overview (Goldstein)

- A. Goldstein reviewed the Statement of Activities and key line items through Feb. 29, 2020.
- B. Goldstein informed the board that the year-end projection will be posted on the Members Only website and reviewed important details.
- C. Goldstein reviewed the messaging that will be presented around the 2021 FY budget.
- D. Goldstein provided an update on the recent support from the Foundation.

V. Vice Presidents

- A. Midwest (Cutler) –
Cutler reported that she has been fielding a lot of questions about competitions, budgets and dues around the current uncertainty with COVID-19.
- B. Pacific Coast (Engel) –
Engel reported that she has also been answering a lot of questions about the same items as Cutler, as well as a question about financial exposure if a competition is canceled.
- C. East (Nemier) –
 - 1. Nemier reiterated that the vice presidents have been spending a lot of time answering questions from members.
 - 2. Nemier reviewed all three March VP calls, which focused on COVID-19 updates and recommendations, with Dr. Kristin Abbott as the main presenter.
 - 3. Nemier notified the board that all three April VP calls will take place next week.

VI. 2020 Governing Council Preparation

- A. Raith reviewed the timeline leading up to the Governing Council meeting, and stated that the President’s Webinar on Monday, April 13, will lead off a week of important meetings that will include the three VP calls in preparation for Governing Council. Raith also stressed that this will not be a typical Governing Council meeting, as it will be online and will focus on the essential business. Raith also notified the board that the parliamentarian, Ann Guiberson, has a conflict with our new dates, so we have agreed to have Dr. Leonard Young, who served as parliamentarian last year, serve as our parliamentarian again.
- B. Raith reviewed the draft 2020 Governing Council Meeting Book.
- C. Raith reviewed the Convention Standing Rules for this year’s Governing Council online meeting. Goldstein then made the following motion:

<Request for action> to approve the Convention Standing Rules for the 2020 Governing Council meeting via video conference as presented. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)
- D. The board reviewed the proposed bylaw amendments (Exhibits A, B and C).
- E. Raith asked all of the group coordinators to be on all three VP calls so they can address any questions that arise.

<8:16 p.m. ET – Erle joined the meeting>

VII. Group Coordinator Requests for Action

- A. **Athlete Services**
 - 1. Goldman notified the board that she has asked the discipline committee chairs to be on the VP calls to answer any questions that arise.
 - 2. Goldman reviewed the requests for action from the Athlete Services Group by committee. (See the 2020 Governing Council Meeting Book for a detailed report of the proposals and the actions taken.)
 - a. Items 101-105 (Dance Development and Technical Committee): Goldman corrected Item 104 to include pre-juvenile in the free dance warm-up section. There was no other discussion.
 - b. Items 106-110 (Pairs Development and Technical Committee): No items were discussed.
 - c. Item 111 (Pairs Development and Technical Committee, and Singles Development and Technical Committee): There was no discussion.
 - d. Items 112-113 (Singles Development and Technical Committee): Item 112 was discussed. After the rationale was discussed in more detail, no motion was made.
 - e. Items 114-134 (Synchronized Development and Technical Committee): There was no discussion.
 - f. Goldman then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve Items 101-134 as presented. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)
- B. **Membership Development**
 - 1. Wolf announced that Learn to Skate USA numbers through March 31 are still ahead of previous seasons, despite the effects of the coronavirus.

2. Wolf reviewed the requests for action from the Membership Development Group. (See the 2020 Governing Council Meeting Book for a detailed report of the proposals and the actions taken.)
 - a. Items 101-102 (Adult Skating Committee): There was no discussion.
 - b. Item 103 (Collegiate Program Subcommittee): There was no discussion.
 - c. Wolf then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve Items 201-203 as presented. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

C. Technical and Officials

1. Perez reviewed the requests for action from the Technical and Officials Group by committee and then by topic. (See the 2020 Governing Council Meeting Book for a detailed report of the proposals and the actions taken.)
 - a. Items 301-320 (Competitions Committee): Item 304 was isolated by Nemier. After discussion, no motion was proposed.
 - b. Items 321-323 (Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management): Goldman isolated Item 322 and made a motion to add masters junior-senior competitors to the qualifications for singles technical specialists. Engel then pointed out two housekeeping changes that needed to be made to have the correct names of the current qualifying competitions.
 - c. Perez then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve Items 301-321 and 323 as presented, and Item 322 as amended. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

D. Administrative/Legal

1. Perreault reviewed the request for action from the Administrative/Legal Group (Item 401). (See the 2020 Governing Council Meeting Book for a detailed report of the proposals and the actions taken.) There was no discussion. Perreault then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve Item 401 as presented. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

E. International

1. Horen reviewed the request for action from the International Group (Item 501) and answered questions from the board. (See the 2020 Governing Council Meeting Book for a detailed report of the proposals and the actions taken.) Horen then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve Item 501 as presented. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

VIII. Group Coordinator Reports

A. Athlete Services

1. Goldman thanked the Athlete Group committees, and High Performance and Figure Skating Programs Departments for the programs that are being offered virtually.

B. Membership Development

1. Wolf reported that the Membership Development Group is sending additional newsletters during this time.

C. Technical and Officials

1. Perez reported that a decision has been made to cancel the Judges Appointment Seminar that was scheduled to be held in June.
2. Perez notified the board that Tamie Campbell has officially retired as a judge, referee and technical controller, but is keeping her data operator and video replay operator appointments.
3. Perez notified the board that Joan Burns has also retired from being an official.

D. Administrative/Legal

1. Perreault notified the board that SafeSport reports were lower in March but are still being submitted and reviewed.

E. International

1. Horen notified the board that we are still waiting to hear if the ISU Congress will be canceled or postponed.
2. Raith informed the board that the Grand Prix criteria include the results from the World Championships. Because those weren't held, the ISU and the Grand Prix Organizers are reviewing the

criteria for next season. The selection meeting is still scheduled for the end of June, but where and/or how it will be held is under discussion.

3. Horen reported that the ISU technical committees are working virtually, but no ISU Communications have been posted, yet, with technical information for next season.
4. Horen notified the board that he has been speaking to other federations, and Nations Cup has been postponed from 2021 to 2022 but will still be held in Boston.
5. Horen informed the board that the Olympic Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games are being reviewed by the USOPC and should be presented to the board for approval in May.

F. Coaches

1. No new information.

G. Athletes Advisory Committee

1. Ladwig notified the board that the athlete elections are wrapping up this week.
2. Ladwig reported that he is working on the mental health initiatives with Rachael Flatt.
3. Ladwig stated that he is hoping for good athlete participation for the virtual Governing Council meeting.

IX. Requests for Action (not in Meeting Book)

- A. Wolf reviewed a proposal to suspend the coaches late fee for 2020-21 season and then made the following motion:

<Request for action> to suspend rule GR 4.04 to waive the late fee for coaches from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, due to the impacts of the coronavirus. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

GR 4.04 Any renewing coach who does not fulfill the requirements of coach compliance in rules GR 4.01 and GR 4.02 by July 1 will be assessed a \$75 late fee.

- A. Special exceptions to the late fee may be granted by the appropriate sectional vice chair of the Membership Committee.

- B. Perez reviewed a sanction request for the 2020 U.S. Collegiate Figure Skating Championships, which are planned to be held in conjunction with the 2020 Philadelphia Summer Championships and then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve a final sanction for the 2020 U.S. Collegiate Figure Skating Championships, July 26 through Aug. 1, 2020; Aston, Pa.; IceWorks SC. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

<9:22 p.m. ET – Erle left the meeting>

X. New Business

- A. Raith provided background on a requirement that came out of the USOPC audit to mandate background checks for all club board members. Raith and Perreault reiterated the need to do this to protect our athletes and our clubs, and Ladwig then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve a policy, effective with the 2020-21 membership season (July 1, 2020), that background checks and SafeSport training are mandatory for all members of the board of directors of a U.S. Figure Skating full, provisional or interim club. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

- B. Engel requested a one-year reduction in club dues (rule MR 5.01) to acknowledge the impacts on their businesses as a result of the coronavirus. Goldstein reviewed the impact of reducing the dues for one year. There were no objections. Goldstein then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve a 50 percent decrease in the annual club dues as specified in rule MR 5.01 for the 2020-2021 season due to the impacts of the coronavirus. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

<9:36 p.m. ET – Newcomer and Vogtner left the meeting>

XI. Executive Session

The next business meeting of the board will be a Special Meeting of the board, Monday, April 27, at 8 p.m. ET, via Zoom video conferencing.

Meeting concluded at 9:52 p.m. EDT

Submitted,

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

Gretchen Bonnie, Secretary