U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors
Meeting Agenda – FINAL

Monday, Dec. 6, 2021; 8:00 p.m. ET

Via ZOOM Video Conference:

1. Welcome / Roll Call

2. Approval of Agenda/Conflict of Interest Disclosure

3. Approval of November 6, 2021 and November 18, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, and November 6, 2021 and November 10, 2021 (e-ballot) ROAs

4. President’s Update
   a. U.S Figure Skating Foundation Meeting Update
   b. PSA Working Group Update
   c. President’s Webinar

5. Treasurer’s Report
   a. Monthly Financials Report
   b. Budget Process Update

6. Vice President’s Report (questions on written report or additional updates)
   a. Eastern
   b. Midwestern
   c. Pacific

7. Executive Session

8. Executive Director Report
   a. USOPC/Olympic Update
   b. Destination Beijing/Olympic Friends & Family
   c. Sponsorship Update
   d. Staff Update

9. Governance Working Group Update

10. Nominating Committee
    a. RFA for consideration

11. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force Update

12. Group Coordinators (questions of written reports and RFAs), Coaches and AAC Reports
    a. AAC
    b. Coaches
    c. Athlete Services
    d. Technical & Officials
    e. Membership
    f. Admin/Legal
13. ISU Update  
   a. General  
   b. GP Final Update  

14. New Business (Memorial Resolution)  

15. Next meetings of the Board of Directors in-person (Chicago, O’Hare) on **Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022** – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT and via video conference **Monday, March 14, 2022** - 8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT
I. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting
A. Cammett called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
B. Moore took roll call, and a quorum was confirmed.
C. The agenda was adopted.
D. Cammett asked the members to disclose any conflicts based on tonight’s agenda. No conflicts were disclosed.
E. The Nov. 6 and Nov. 18 minutes were approved as presented.
F. The Nov. 6 and Nov. 10 reports of action were approved as presented. The Dec. 1 report of action was updated to change Misha Petkevich to John Misha Petkevich.

II. President’s Update
A. Cammett reviewed the Foundation meeting that was held on Dec. 3 and notified the board that the Foundation Board of Trustees approved a DEI statement and plan of action. Goldstein, Auxier and Baker provided additional information from the meeting. Cammett notified the board that Bob Anderson and Paul George were re-elected as trustees of the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation. Cammett then made the following motions:

<Request for action> to concur with the trustees’ election and reappointment of Paul George for a new three-year term to continue serving on the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation Board of Trustees. (11 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain, 2 absent)

<Request for action> to concur with the trustees’ election and reappointment of Bob Anderson for a new three-year term to continue serving on the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation Board of Trustees. (11 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain, 2 absent)

B. Cammett notified the board that McManus, Paige, Nemier and Goldstein will be serving on a working group with staff members Kelly Vogtner and John Anderson to look at U.S. Figure Skating’s agreement with the PSA, as the current agreement is set to expire. Cammett notified the board that she and Baker will also be involved as needed.
C. Cammett announced that the President’s Update will be pre-recorded on Tuesday, Dec. 14, and then an email will be sent once the recording is available.
D. Cammett notified the board that she started the USOPC board training and is very impressed with it so far.

III. Treasurer’s Report
A. Goldstein provided additional information on the decision of the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation to forgive the remainder of the loan that was granted to U.S. Figure Skating at the onset of COVID-19.
B. Goldstein reviewed the financials and membership numbers for the 2022 fiscal year through the end of November 2021 and reviewed some membership trends.
C. Goldstein reminded the board members that budget requests are due tomorrow, Dec. 7, and then reviewed the next steps. Auxier asked that additional details be provided at the February, in-person board meeting.
D. Goldstein reviewed the audit and reminded the board that U.S. Figure Skating received an unqualified opinion showing no issues, which is the highest rating that can be achieved. Baker will share the final audit report for the board’s approval, and the board was asked to provide any objections or concerns by Thursday; otherwise, the audit report will be adopted and posted as required by U.S. Figure Skating rules.
E. Goldstein provided some information on the Form 990, which will be presented to the board at the February, in-person board meeting.

IV. Vice Presidents’ Reports
The vice presidents provided a written report in advance of the meeting. This report can be found at the end of these minutes. The vice presidents did not have any updates to their written report.

Moore made a motion to go into executive session, and the motion was approved without objection.

<8:46 p.m. ET – Newcomer was moved to the waiting room>

V. Executive Session
Discussed legal topics including any potential litigation with an update from internal legal counsel Anderson and discussed officials appointments.

Goldstein made a motion to come out of executive session, and the motion was approved without objection.

<9:50 p.m. ET – Newcomer rejoined the meeting>

VI. Executive Director’s Report
A. Baker addressed the U.S. diplomatic boycott of the Olympic Winter Games that was announced today. Baker also provided information on travel to Beijing.

<9:51 p.m. ET – Helms left the meeting>

B. Baker provided information on the sendoff that is planned for Sunday, Jan. 9, at the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships and also reviewed plans for Destination Beijing/Olympic Friends and Family.
C. Baker notified the board that we remain sold out of commercial inventory for the remainder of the year.
D. Baker informed the board that he is working with the HR generalist on plans to return the staff to the office in 2022.

VII. Governance Working Group
A. Nemier notified the board that the athlete representation and athlete election focus group has developed the election process for the athlete board members and the AAC, and there is a meeting with the USOPC next week to get approval for the process.
B. Nemier reported that the Governing Council focus group is currently drafting proposals to present to the board at the February, in-person meeting.
C. Nemier stated that the leadership development and succession planning focus group is still getting started, so there is nothing to report for that group, yet.

VIII. Nominating Committee RFA
A. Nemier provided information on the Nominating Committee meeting that was held in person in Chicago on Nov. 7.
B. Nemier gave a report on the applications received to date for the independent directors and announced Rachael Naphthal, Sharon Watson, Cammett, Flatt and Nemier have been named to the working group to review the applications.
C. Nemier reviewed a request for action to amend rule NCR 4.06 (F) and then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to amend rule NCR 4.06 (F) (page 75, rulebook) regarding the publication of the slate of nominees for 2022 only as follows:

NCR 4.06 Annually, the committee will
F. By March 1 No later than March 8, publish on usfigureskating.org the slate of nominees recommended by the Nominating Committee for election by the Governing Council as referred to in Article XV, Section 2 (A) and (B), of the U.S. Figure Skating bylaws, and for appointment as U.S. Figure Skating committee chairs.

Implementation date: Immediate, and for 2022 only (12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent)
IX. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force
A. Cutler notified the board that all members of the DEI Task Force were invited to an Inclusion Playbook seminar today.
B. Cutler reviewed the new ISU Transgender Policy (ISU Communication No. 2440).
C. Cutler notified the board that, like Cammett, she has started the USOPC board training and is also very impressed with it so far. She encouraged the board to click through a link entitled How Boards Can Create Inclusive Cultures for Organizations within the course section Recommended Readings on Board Culture to read an article about creating an inclusive board.
D. Cutler reported that a DEI certification course for coaches will be available by the beginning of 2022, and the bulk of the material will also be used to create a DEI training course for officials.

X. Group Coordinators’ Reports
Note: The Athlete Services and Technical and Officials Group coordinators provided written reports in advance of the meeting. Those reports can be found at the end of these minutes.
A. Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC)
   1. Flatt notified the board that the AAC will hold its last meeting for the year on Wednesday, and Kadari Taylor-Watson will join to do a needs assessment.
B. Coaches
   1. Paige reported that coaches are continuing to prepare for the synchronized season and hoping that all competitions will be able to take place.
C. Athlete Services
   1. Goldman stated that she did not have any updates to her written report.
D. Technical and Officials
   1. Bromley stated that his report stands as written and provided a few updates on the health and safety plans for the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships.
E. Membership Development
   1. Preston notified the board that in-person Skate Fests were held in St. Louis and Nashville and were well received.
   2. Preston announced that Theatre On Ice (TOI) has been holding webinars on how to start TOI programs, and Excel also held a webinar last week that was well attended.
F. Administrative/Legal
   Helms left the meeting in advance of her report, so Anderson provided the Administrative/Legal Group Report on her behalf.
   1. Anderson provided an update on SkateSafe reports since the last meeting.
   2. Anderson reviewed a request for action from the Grievance Committee, and Cutler made the following motion:

   <Request for Action> to approve the Grievance Committee recommendation to permanently ban Tawna Klopf from U.S. Figure Skating. (12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent)

XI. ISU Update
Horen provided a written report in advance of the meeting. This report can be found at the end of these minutes.
A. Horen reviewed the decision to cancel the ISU Grand Prix Final and steps being taken to determine if it will be rescheduled.

XII. New Business
A. Newcomer presented a memorial resolution for Charles “Chuck” Foster. Goldstein then made the following motion:

   <Request for Action> to approve a memorial resolution for Charles “Chuck” Foster”, past president and honorary member of the U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors, who recently passed away. (12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent)

B. Baker reviewed an opportunity to hold the next in-person meeting at the Westin Denver International Airport. Cammett asked the board to think about it and let her know by tomorrow if they have any concerns about moving the location from Chicago to Denver.

XIII. Closing Announcements and Adjournment
The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the board will be in person on Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT.

Meeting concluded at 10:40 p.m. ET

Submitted,

Kimberley Moore, Secretary
Vice Presidents Report to the Board of Directors
December 6, 2021

Following the Board meeting on November 6, 2021, each Vice President hosted a Sectional call on November 30/December 1 to provide a Board update as well as key information for club leaders. The agenda topics/speakers included the VPs presenting information on the new online-only directory and an update on the U.S. Championship Series as well as plans for the 2023 season. Following that, Kyleigh Gaff and Lauren O’Toole gave an update on the Synchro season, which is well-underway. Susi Wehrli-McLaughlin closed out the meetings with information on National Skating Month.

The vice presidents will be meeting in the next couple of weeks to plan the calls for 2022 leading up to Governing Council.

The Vice Presidents continue to meet regularly to identify key issues based upon questions from and discussions with members and club leaders.

Submitted by:
Kris Arneson Cutler, Midwestern Vice President
Janis Engel, Pacific Coast Vice President
Heather Nemier, Eastern Vice President
Athlete Services Group Board Report
Submitted by Lynn Goldman Athletes Services Group Coordinator
December 6, 2021

Coaches Committee: Nothing new to report.

Dance Development & Technical Committee: Met with coaches at Alpharetta qualifying competition and follow up committee meeting December 2, 2021, to discuss several proposals to increase dance competitions as well as a dance final, sharing ideas for NHPDT Dance Camp including possible consistency drills (working with High Performance), on and off-ice content, etc. Posted two Technical Notifications since November BOD meeting: Technical Notification 274 - Ice Dance - Solo Free Dance Prerequisites and Technical Notification 273 - Ice Dance - Partnered Free Dance Prerequisites

Memorial Fund Committee: Athlete funding scheduled to go out this week.

Pairs Development & Technical Committee: Pending Pairs ballot to add a bonus structure for jumps, throws and twists; post qualifying competition survey to pair coaches to include interest in creating online pair resources as well as comments on qualifying season.

Singles Development & Technical Committee: Committee meeting December 2, 2021, discussing upcoming plans/ballot items: singles athlete pipeline for tests and competitions, spin progressing, revamping bonus structure for next season, as well as working with High Performance on ideas for NDHPT camp.

Sports Sciences and Medicine Committee: Working with headquarters and Competitions Committee on COVID safely plans for U.S. Championships.

Synchronized Development & Technical Committee: Qualifying season just underway; posted Technical Notification 275 - Synchronized Skating - Competition Rule Changes since last BOD meeting; continuing to host office hours for coaches to help get ready for sectionals; created a working group on re-imaging camps. Next meeting is December 7, 2021.
U.S. Figure Skating  
BOD Meeting - December 6, 2021  
Technical and Officials Group Coordinator Report – Todd Bromley

Competitions Committee

The 2022 U.S. Figure Skating Championships Series presented by Toyota concluded with its last event in Spokane, Washington. Athletes qualified for the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships (Junior / Senior) and the National High Performance Development Team and Camp (Juvenile / Novice). All athletes and coaches were notified prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. Events will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, the first two weeks of January 2022. As of Nov. 29, 2021, the qualifier lists were posted on www.usfigureskating.org.

Overall comments for the Championship Series have been overwhelmingly positive. It was great to see the cross pollination of athletes, coaches and officials at each of the eight series events. A survey has been sent out to all athletes and coaches to gather their feedback on the series. In addition, a recap call with the chief referees from the Championship Series was held on Nov. 30, 2021. The Competitions Committee received some valuable feedback on what worked well and areas of opportunities from the chief referees.

The Competitions Committee is still in the review process of determining the exact structure of the 2022-23 qualifying season. Preliminary plans were presented at the Board of Directors meeting at the Nov. 6, 2021, in-person meeting and also to the PSA board meeting on Nov. 7, 2021, via Zoom. More details will be available after Jan. 1, 2022.

Synchronized skating is making a strong comeback. Registration for the 2021-22 season has closed. At close of entries, 299 synchronized skating teams (qualifying and nonqualifying) had registered for the season. With the adoption of IJS scoring for all divisions, this will be the first season that synchronized skating will not have any qualifying rounds.

As of Nov. 4, 2021, due to international events, nine junior teams and four senior teams have received byes to the 2022 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships to be held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. A total of 93 teams will be competing at the championships.

The National Synchronized Skating Series has been launched with 14 designated competitions, this includes nonqualifying events and all sectional events. To participate in the series, all teams must register through EMS. Currently 44 teams have registered for the series.

New for the 2021-22 season was an ISP Challenge Series. Junior and senior teams are required to compete in at least two nonqualifying events. Teams were also required to meet a minimum score to be considered for participation in an international event.

The adult skating community is busy preparing for the 2022 adult sectional championships and 2022 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships. Several dance RFA’s have been approved by the Board of Directors for the Adult Skating Committee.

Domestic Selections Committee (DSC)

The DSC did a great job of making assignments for the 2022 Championship Series. As previously mentioned, there was a great cross pollination of officials at each of the events. Due to the limitation of only allowing a regional-level official to serve as a minority on the judging panels and technical panels, the staffing of the events was somewhat complicated. A review is also being conducted on the staffing models needed at events based on the number of rink surfaces utilized and disciplines that were skated.

DSC is currently working on the staffing for the 2022 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships. The availability of officials was very low. Research is being conducted if officials are not getting the requests or are they just not responding.

Final staffing adjustments are being made for the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships as some officials have had changes in their availability or conflicts with athletes competing.

DSC finalized the 2022 synchronized sectional staffing, and invites have been sent to all invited officials.
Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management (DORM)

Event Management Officials Subcommittee: Music is working on the EMS download issue with headquarters IT. Announcing is developing evaluation forms for promotion and also a mentoring program. All peer forms for announcing and all official types will be reviewed by legal with the hopes of creating one peer review form that is standardized for all officials versus having multiple versions that may be outdated and no longer being used by some official groups.

Referees: Two national singles/pairs referee applications are being reviewed, and one sectional dance referee appointment, one regional singles/pairs referee appointment and one 6.0 referee appointment are in the works.

Judges Management Subcommittee: Virtual test trialing is currently on hold while trying to figure out the correct process. Further collaboration from the Tests Committee is needed. The working group has pretty much completed the process for selecting trial judges for virtual tests and is waiting for the Tests Committee to establish the logistical end in order to proceed any further. Discussions have occurred if this undertaking is still needed.

Secured JETS for three of the Championship Series competitions with assistance from the Officials Training Committee (OTC). All other Championship Series used judges from the selected panel of officials already in attendance at event.

Approved trial judges for the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Nine singles/pairs candidates were accepted and three dance candidates were accepted. Also partnered with OTC in selecting the faculty.

COVID-19 trial paper moratorium began on March 1, 2020, and ended on Oct. 1, 2021, as rinks and skating across the country returned back to pre-COVID activity.

The 2021 rules review for singles/pairs/dance judges will be available through Dec. 15, 2021. All officials assigned to a Championship Series completed the rules review. The rules review for synchronized skating was published the final week of September. All but five synchronized skating judges assigned to a qualifying competition have completed the rules review. A reminder was sent out advising they have until Dec. 15, 2021, to complete or risk being replaced at their assigned event.

Processed and approved the following appointments in November: one bronze singles test, three gold singles tests, one sectional singles/pairs competition, one national singles/pairs competition and five national showcase. There were no dance or synchronized skating appointments submitted.

Officials Development and Assessment Subcommittee: Piloted a new assessment form and the gray bar reports at three of the Championship Series competitions (Henderson, Ft. Wayne and Alpharetta). Next steps include some fine tuning in how we want to use these tools at the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Additional feedback needs to be collected on the process, summarize the feedback, send to Scott Brown and Lynn Bell and work with them to determine how the feedback should be delivered to the officials. Once the final process is refined and fully developed, evolve the process into selected nonqualifying competitions.

Officials Recruitment Subcommittee: For the Officials Recruitment Subcommittee, we had an unplanned meet up with a few committee members while at the Kalamazoo Kick Off competition (photo). The synchronized skating and dance vice chairs are planning a prospective synchronized skating open house in conjunction with the Reflections Competition. The purpose of the open house is to help prospective judges navigate how to prepare to trial at a competition, when to apply, and all of the other ins and outs of trial judging.
A top priority for the coming year will be to develop a more robust officials’ recognition program.

**Technical Panel Subcommittee:** Continuing to track TPER results for all disciplines as final deadline approaches. Currently reviewing applications for the 2022 National Technical Panel Seminar. Reviewing activity guidelines for maintaining appointments. Partnering with OTC in selecting faculty and planning the 2022 National Technical Panel Seminar.

**Officials Training Committee (OTC)**

**Accountants and Technical Accountants Training Subcommittee:** The subcommittee has been updating Accounting Central with new files and documents and deleting obsolete files. Criteria for appointments for technical accountants have been reviewed, and new guidelines will be published soon. Discussions have been held to include training on the microsystem. It is TBD if it will be part of TA 2 or TA 3 training. OTC is looking at the possibility of holding a TA 3 school during the 2022 Broadmoor Open. The new accounting software from Swiss Timing (Figure Skating Manager) is in beta testing on version 1.5.11. An eLearning 6.0 school is being finalized and should be ready for release soon. The national accountant exam is currently being created and will be ready by early next year.

**Announcers and Music Officials Training Subcommittee:** Training for music coordinators was held on Nov. 29, 2021. It covered EMS, Entryeeze, iTunes, and computer setup. The announcing group has been tapped to assist with doing some of the voiceovers for upcoming eLearning modules.

**Judges Training Subcommittee:** OTC currently has six eLearning modules completed. Work is currently in progress on the following courses: How to judge MITF and FS Tests; How to Become a Dance Competition Judge; How to Judge 6.0 events; How to Judge Pairs; program components; and How to Become a Synchronized Skating Competition Judge.

Planning is underway for trial judging at the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships. There are nine approved trial judges for singles/pairs and three approved trial judges for dance. The schedule has been set with various learning activities. A pre-event call has been scheduled with the trial judges to set expectations and to meet the JETS prior to the championships. The national exam for singles/pairs has been completed, and the national exam for dance is near completion.

JETS were sent to three of the Championship Series competitions (Blaine, Norwood and Alpharetta). Designated synchronized skating JETS have been identified for the season and will be present at Colonial Classic and the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships.

All promotional exams are being reviewed for exam content and layout. ClassMarker (database for exams) will be updated so that each level of exams will have a bank of questions that are auto-pulled and randomized when one takes an exam. This will cut down on having to create an entirely new exam when one is failed.

OTC is developing a virtual school for test judges. This is tentatively scheduled for late February. In addition, OTC will resume the annual in-person judging school for late spring.

**Referees Training Subcommittee:** The current 6.0, regional, and national exams have been reviewed to make sure they are applicable and can be used for candidates applying for referee appointments. Following the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, OTC will begin work on establishing referee roundtables and a referee school.
**Technical Panel Training Subcommittee:** With year-end deadlines for all disciplines to complete the TPER, OTC is seeing a steady stream of exams come in. The overall pass rate is high. Future adjustments still to come with the TPER, focusing on better assessment approach (more videos, less text) and lengthening timeline for both drafting the exams and taking the exams.

The National Technical Panel Seminar has been scheduled for March 31 through April 3, 2022, in Chicago, Illinois. The application to attend the school was posted in Members Only in November. Applicants are being reviewed by DORM and recommended (or not) for school. Those who applied in 2020 and weren’t able to test at the virtual school in March 2021 will be listed as a priority since that school was cancelled due to COVID-19. The faculty invites are being sent out. Videos collected at the Championship Series events are being logged to create a video database for the school. Following the school, OTC plans to release a document with “greatest hits” from the school, addressing most of the common errors and points of good discussion to share with all technical panel officials – in attendance or not. Plans are being made to have a “coffee talk” webinar series for the future.

**Tests Committee**

The Tests Committee sent an email blast to all test chairs to reinforce the virtual testing guidelines. In addition, the committee is in the planning stages of scheduling monthly roundtable meetings with test chairs to discuss various topics that test chairs face on a daily basis.

Effective Dec. 1, 2021, Technical Notification 272 went into effect. Due to adjustments in the Excel specifications, including program component factors, fall deductions and minimum requirements in spins, singles skaters competing in Excel free skate events at the Excel juvenile level and above that are judged under IJS will be eligible to submit protocols for test credit under the specifications of Rules 4101 and 4200-4202, and Technical Notification 233 (which remains valid).

To be eligible for test credit through an IJS protocol, the applicable Excel free skate event must have taken place on Dec. 1, 2021, or later and must use the 2022 Excel free skate requirements. The minimum passing scores for all singles free skate tests can be found in Technical Notification 233.

Discussions are currently underway in making IJS protocol test credit eligible for solo free dance.
The Senior Grand Prix Series has ended, and the Grand Prix Final (including the Junior Grand Prix Final) was scheduled to be held in Osaka next week. All plans have now been cancelled by the Japanese Federation and the Japanese Government. We do not know if the Finals will be rescheduled for later in the season. This will be decided by the ISU Council. We have great athletes who were planning to attend both the Junior and Senior Finals, and we hope that the outcome can be positive for them.

The U.S. will attend one more international competition in Zagreb (Golden Spin) before our the U.S. Championships. Byes are complete after the Championship Series and Cup of Russia.

Preparations are moving forward for the Olympic Games in Beijing and with the new selection criteria, High Performance has been gathering the data needed for the selections’ meetings at Nationals.

The Synchronized Skating group has been holding a series of competitions - the Synchronized Challenge Series consisting of three competitions - Diamond Classic (Mentor, OH), Fall Synchro Classic (Irvine, CA), and Boston Synchro Classic (Norwood, MA). The results of these competitions have been invaluable in the review of teams and making assignments for the upcoming international season. Training for the Synchro Team Leaders is scheduled for mid-December.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Horen