# **U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors Meeting Agenda - FINAL**

# Monday, March 14, 2022 - 8:00PM ET

#### Via ZOOM Video Conference:

- 1. Welcome / Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Agenda/Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- 3. Approval of February 26, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, and ROAs
- 4. President's Update
- 5. Treasurer's Report
- 6. Vice President's Report (questions on written report or additional updates)
  - a. Pacific
  - b. Eastern
  - c. Midwestern
- 7. Governance Working Group Update & Governing Council Standing Rules
- 8. Executive Director Report
  - a. Fundraising & Giving Programs (Destination Beijing/Centennial Fund/etc.)
  - b. Sponsorship Sales Aggregate Sports Update
  - c. COVID protocols Mask Policy
  - d. LTSUSA
- 9. Executive Session
- 10. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force Update
- 11. Group Coordinators (updates, questions of written reports and RFAs), Coaches and AAC Reports
  - a. AAC
  - b. Coaches
  - c. Athlete Services
    - i. Memorial Fund bylaw and rule change
  - d. Technical & Officials
  - e. Membership
  - f. Admin/Legal
- 12. ISU Update
  - a. Junior World Championships (Estonia) / World Championships (France)
  - b. ISU Council Actions Congress, Russian & Belarusian ban, etc.
  - c. Officials' nominations/promotions to ISU
- 13. New Business
- Next meetings of the Board of Directors via ZOOM Video Conference: Monday, April 4, 2022 - 7 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT and in-person on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

# U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors via Video Conference Monday, March 14, 2022, 8 p.m. ET

#### **Present**

Kristin Arneson Cutler, Samuel Auxier (Past President), Ramsey Baker (Executive Director), Todd Bromley, Anne Cammett (President), Janis Engel, Rachael Flatt, Lynn Goldman, Troy Goldstein, Jaclyn Helms, Bob Horen (ISU Representative), Jenna Longo (non-voting athlete), Colin McManus, Kimberley Moore, Heather Nemier, Heather Paige, Elise Preston, Todd Sand, Felicia Zhang

#### Guests

U.S. Figure Skating staff members John Anderson and Juliet Newcomer

# 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.
- Cammett asked the members to disclose any conflicts based on tonight's agenda. No conflicts were disclosed.
- E. The Feb. 26 minutes were approved as presented.
- F. The Feb. 26 report of action was approved as presented.

# II. President's Update

- A. Cammett notified the board that to be consistent with the ISU, she has given the approval to change the event names for the ladies discipline from ladies to women and will put together a working group to look at broader changes in U.S. Figure Skating's gendered language. It was discussed that the names for juvenile and below will most likely not be changed at this time. Cutler asked that a member of the DEI Task Force be included in working group discussions, as the task force has already been reviewing gendered language in the rules.
- B. Cammett provided some information on the upcoming ISU World Figure Skating Championships.

# III. Treasurer's Report

- A. Goldstein reviewed the financial statement of activities through Jan. 31, 2022.
- B. Goldstein and Baker provided information on the settlement for the 2022 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships.
- C. Goldstein provided additional information, and the board reviewed historical information regarding Learn to Skate USA and Basic Skills.
- D. Goldstein provided an update regarding IT.

#### 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.

#### V. Governance Working Group Update & Convention Standing Rules

- A. Nemier notified the board that the graphics have been updated in the leadership development pipeline document that was reviewed at the last meeting.
- B. Nemier reviewed the proposed convention standing rules for Governing Council. Goldstein then made the following motion:
  - < Request for Action > to approve the Convention Standing Rules for the 2022 Governing Council meeting as presented. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

#### VI. Executive Director's Report

- A. Baker reviewed the recent fundraising and giving programs, including Destination Beijing and the Centennial Fund.
- B. Baker gave an update on sponsorship sales and Aggregate Sports.
- C. Baker reviewed the proposed changes to the mask policy. Nemier then made the following motion:
  - < Request for Action > to approve the updated mask policy for all U.S. Figure Skating-sanctioned events and activities. (13 yes, 2 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

- D. Baker provided an update on the medals for the Olympic Team Event. Baker also provided an update on Stars On Ice.
- <9:10 p.m. ET Anderson joined the meeting>

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

<9:11 p.m. ET – Newcomer left the meeting>

#### VII. Executive Session

Discussion regarding music rights claim from the Olympics and related legal topics.

<9:45 p.m. ET – Baker left the meeting>

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

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

# VIII. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force

Cutler reviewed the plans for DEI seminars at Governing Council.

#### IX. 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 reviewed the AAC DEI training with Kadari Taylor-Watson and notified the board that the AAC is working with Kelly Vogtner to get resources posted.
- B. Coaches
  - 1. Sand notified the board that the coaching members had nothing new to report.
- C. Athlete Services
  - 1. Goldman reviewed a request for action to bring the Memorial Fund bylaws and rules in line with current procedures. After discussion, it was determined that more work is needed on the proposal. Cammett agreed to set up a working group, and Goldman withdrew the request for action.
- D. Technical and Officials
  - 1. Bromley reviewed the 2022 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships and the three adult sectional championships.
  - 2. Bromley provided updates on the various projects and programs being managed by the Technical and Officials Group committees.
  - 3. Bromley informed the board that he spoke with Karen Cover, the museum archivist who manages the trophies, regarding the \$500 trophy fee in the rulebook, and Karen confirmed that the fee is still sufficient to cover the costs of the engraving.
- E. Membership Development
  - 1. Preston notified the board that the Nations Cup competition that scheduled to be held in Boston in 2022 has been postponed until 2023, with Boston remaining as the host.
  - 2. Preston announced that registrations for the Excel Series are the highest for any season to date.
- F. Administrative/Legal

Helms provided an update on SkateSafe reports since the last meeting.

#### X. 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 notified the board that the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships have been reposition to Tallin, Estonia, in mid-April.
- B. Horen reviewed the most recent decisions of the ISU Council and notified the board that the ISU Council is scheduled to meet again at the beginning of April.
- C. Horen reviewed the candidates recommended by the International Officials Management Subcommittee to test for promotions in 2022 and then made the following motions:

< Request for Action> to approve submitting the candidates recommended by the International Officials Management Subcommittee to test for promotions at the ISU Global Seminar in Frankfurt, Germany, in July 2022. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

< Request for Action> to approve submitting the candidates recommended by the International Officials Management Subcommittee to test for promotion in Oberstdorf, Germany, in September 2022. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent)

# XI. New Business

- A. Helms proposed the idea of engaging a DEI consultant to work with the Board of Directors.
- B. Baker provided information for the April 27 board meeting.

# XII. Closing Announcements and Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the board will be via video conference on Monday, April 4, 2022, at 7 p.m. ET.

Meeting concluded at 10:31 p.m. ET

Kimberley Moore, Secretary

Submitted,

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# Vice Presidents Report to the Board of Directors March 8, 2022

The Vice Presidents did not host a Sectional or joint call following the last Board meeting on February 26, given the three joint meetings held in January and February. We will be sending a notice to all club leaders of the April Section calls, focused on the action items from the Governing Council Meeting Book. This announcement will be accompanied by a survey to solicit feedback from our club leaders as to their interest in and preferences for Sectional or all-section monthly forums going forward. Results from the survey will be shared with the Board at the in-person meeting in Colorado Springs.

Book calls are scheduled for each section taking place during the second week of April, following the Board's meeting on April 4.

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

#### **Athletes Group Board Report**

Submitted by Lynn Goldman Athletes Services Group Coordinator March 14, 2022

Coaches Committee: Committee meeting March 7 to discuss upcoming ISU proposals, creating standards for coaches at all levels and not just for qualifying events, PSA Summit ideas

**Dance Development & Technical Committee**: Meeting February 28 to discuss upcoming ISU proposals, creating larger competitions for dance, program ideas for HDHPT camp, as well as a "national" competition sometime after the US Dance Final.

Memorial Fund Committee: Bylaw/Rule change RFA

**Pairs Development & Technical Committee:** Beginning March 8, the Pair DTC will be offering a series of educational event via ZOOM. Calls will be hosted by a panel of National and World level coaches, judges and tech panel officials. Coaches will be available to discuss technique. Tech panel members will be discussing features and levels. Judges will discuss the quality of elements including positive and negative bullets for GOE. There will be time for discussion and questions throughout the call. They will be recorded and saved in members only.

Tuesday 3/8 @ 8 p.m. EST (pair spins)
Tuesday 3/15 @ 8 p.m. EST (death spirals)
Sunday 3/20 @ 7 p.m. EST (SBS spins)
Tuesday 3/22 @ 8 p.m. EST (skating skills/steps)
Thursday 4/7 @ 8 p.m. EST (Components
Sunday 4/10 @ 7 p.m. EST (Twists)
Tuesday 4/12 @ 8 p.m. EST (lifts)
Thursday 4/14 @ 8 p.m. EST (jumps/throws)

**Singles Development & Technical Committee:** Meeting March 10. Charlie Cyr joined to explain the ISU rule changes to the group primary discussing moving towards 3 components.

**Sports Sciences and Medicine Committee:** Nothing new to report.

Synchronized Development & Technical Committee: Nothing new to repot

# U.S. Figure Skating BOD Meeting – March 14, 2022 Technical and Officials Group Coordinator Report – Todd Bromley

#### **Competitions Committee**

The 2022 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships were held in Colorado Springs, CO, on March 2-6, 2022. A total of 93 teams across all divisions participated in the event. The atmosphere was great and all athletes were eager to compete again. Despite difficulties in training for the last 18 months due to Covid-19, the teams arrived well trained and prepared.

New scoring records were set in the Novice division with the top 5 teams scoring over 80 points. In the Junior division, Team Image won the junior title for the first time, beating out the Junior World Team Selections of Team Elite and Skyliners (Junior World Team is selected prior to the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships due to the dates of Junior Worlds).

The Haydenettes captured their 29th U.S. Synchronized Skating Championship title. The Haydenettes along with the silver medalists, Miami University, were selected for the 2022 World Synchronized Skating Championships to be held in Hamilton, Ontario, April 7-9, 2022.

Two new perpetual trophies were awarded at the championships for the Masters Team Champions and the Collegiate Team Champions. The Collegiate Team Trophy was in honor of coach Vicki Korn.

The Adult skating community is busy preparing for the upcoming 2022 Adult Sectionals which are being held March 11 - 13, 2022.

The Competition Committee is currently reviewing and ranking bids for the 2023 National Qualifying Series. While the committee has been reviewing bids, a formal ballot was sent out to the Athletes Advisory Committee, Coaches Committee, Competitions Committee, Dance Development and Technical Committee, Pairs Development and Technical Committee, and the Singles Development and Technical Committee. The ballot was well received and passed by an overwhelming majority. A formal RFA will be presented to BOD at the next scheduled meeting.

# **Domestic Selections Committee (DSC)**

DSC is in the initial planning phases to make selections for the 2023 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and 2023 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships.

DSC will be submitting an RFA regarding the structure of the committee. The request is to have a separate VC for music and a separate VC for announcing in the Events Subcommittee. This would align with the committee structure under DORM, which has two VC's (one for each official type).

# **Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management (DORM)**

**Accounting Subcommittee:** Two National Accounting appointments have been submitted for consideration at the May 2022 BOD meeting.

**Referees Subcommittee**: Two National Singles/Pairs referee appointments have been submitted for consideration at the May 2022 BOD meeting.

**Judges Management Subcommittee** – Virtual test trialing is still currently on hold while trying to figure out correct process. Further collaboration from the Tests Committee and DORM is needed.

One National Singles/Pairs Judge appointment has been submitted for consideration at the May 2022 BOD meeting.

An e-blast was sent March 10, 2022, to all officials reminding them of U.S. Figure Skating's Social Media and Spokesperson Policy due to the ISU 2022 World Championships fast approaching.

Officials Development and Assessment Subcommittee - A follow-up call was held on March 8, 2022, to review and discuss the results of the new assessment tool. The pilot did identify some areas of concern from a few officials. Much discussion was had on how the reporting should be utilized and implemented. More discussions are planned throughout the summer. The new tools will be utilized at the Sectional Challenges, Finals and the 2023 U.S. Figure

Skating Championships. Participation on the call included members of the Development and Assessment Committee, Dorm and Officials Training Committee.

Officials Recruitment Subcommittee – There are no additional updates at this time.

**Technical Panel Subcommittee** – The committee partnered with OTC in hosting a "2022 National Technical Panel Seminar Kickoff Call" with candidates and faculty. The 2022 Technical Panel School is scheduled for March 31 – April 3, 2022, in Chicago, IL.

#### **Officials Training Committee (OTC)**

Accountants and Technical Accountants Training Subcommittee – There have been no additional updates since the February 26, 2022, report.

Announcers and Music Officials Training Subcommittee – The Announcing group has continued to assist with doing some of the voiceovers for e-learning modules.

**Judges Training Subcommittee** – OTC has published the following new e-learning courses:

- Turn Identification for Technical Panel Seminar
- How to be a Singles and Pairs Competition Judge
- How to be an Ice Dance Competition Judge
- How to be a Synchronized Skating Competition Judge

The following courses are currently in the production pipeline:

- How to judge MIF / How to judge pairs / Program Components
- How to judge Compete USA and 6.0 events / How to assign GOE's

OTC hosted its first virtual school for test judges. This was held on February 24 - 26, 2022. The number of applications received to attend the virtual school was 135 applicants. OTC was only able to accept 72 applicants. The faculty is currently reviewing the candidates' performances and practical exams. OTC will then convey the results to the Judges Management Subcommittee under DORM as to which candidates have been approved to take the written exams for promotions.

With such an overwhelming number of applicants, another virtual school is being discussed based on the outcome of this initial virtual school. In addition, OTC will resume the annual in-person judging school for late spring.

**Referees Training Subcommittee** - OTC will begin work on establishing Referee Roundtables and a Referee school.

**Technical Panel Training Subcommittee** – The National Technical Panel Seminar has been scheduled for March 31 – April 3, 2022, in Chicago, IL. The faculty is a mixture of DORM and OTC officials. 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 TP officials who were in attendance or not.

#### **Tests Committee**

The Tests Committee held their first Test Chair Round Table on February 28, 2022. The focus for the call was virtual testing. Many test chairs shared their best practices with those test chairs that have not hosted a virtual test session or have had difficulties. There was good discussion and take-aways. The Round Table calls will be every other month. Future topics include more in-depth information on using EMS and processing virtual tests in a more timely manner since the new competition season will soon be upon us.

Tests Committee has the following ballots prepared and ready to send out:

- Item 1 Limiting the maximum number of falls that may be present for an IJS protocol to be eligible for test credit two falls in singles and pairs free skate and one fall in free dance.
- Item 2 Allow for background music in virtual moves in the field tests (consistent with in-person testing).
- Item 3 Allow for IJS protocols of solo free dance programs to be submitted for test credit.
- Item 4 Eliminate the penalty for all singles free skate, pair free skate, and free dance tests that go under the minimum time requirement.

# Report to the Board International Group / ISU Representative March 14, 2022

There are just a few updates since the last Board meeting.

The U.S. Synchronized Skating National Championships were held at the Broadmoor and selections were made for the Senior teams to go to the World Championships, as well as the completion of selections for the Junior World Championships. Here are the selections:

Worlds – Haydenettes, Miami University Alternates – Skyliners, Adrian College Junior Worlds – Skyliners Junior, Teams Elite Alternates – Team Image, Lexettes

The ISU confirmed that Canada will host the World Synchro competition as scheduled. The covid protocols are still being developed.

The ISU announced that the Junior World Singles, Pairs and Dance Championships will be hosted in Tallinn – the same place as Four Continents and Europeans. The dates were set for mid-April. Senior Worlds is moving forward in France at the end of March. Skaters and coaches are excited by the fact that these Championships are being held – and we wish them the best.

The ISU also confirmed that the ISU Congress 2022 will go forward in Thailand as scheduled in June. Final proposals will be posted on April 30.

The World situation is not improving even as we move forward with competitions and meetings. Our thoughts are with Ukraine at this time, and we only hope that a way forward can be found.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Horen