



**Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA**  
**Executive Board of Directors Meeting**  
**May 8, 2012**

**7:00 – 9:40 pm EST**

**Present:** Deb Armento (left at 8:10), Ralph Armento, Mike Burns, Barbara Chambers, Tommy Chasanoff, Paul DePace, Jessica Galli, Phil Galli (left at 8pm), Cindy Housner, Darlene Hunter, Denise Hutchins  
**Absent:** Gregg Baumgarten, Glen O'Sullivan

**1. Call to order by Barbara Chambers, Chair**

**2. April 17, 2012 Minutes:** Tommy moved to pass the April 2012 minutes. Denise 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

**3. Committee Reports**

a. **RSOs:** Cindy reported. Cindy began a discussion on RPO's. She said this discussion began at the NDA in 2011 between members of the RSO's. It was asked among the group at the meeting what are the objectives of RSO's, what they are currently doing and what do they want to do, etc. Darlene and Paul Johnson formed the RPO idea while at the NDA. It was discussed that the RSO's/RPO's should try to align themselves with USP regional work. Cindy shared a draft RPO presentation with the Board prior to tonight's call. The Board read through the presentation and submitted comments and questions to Cindy. Ralph also shared a "RPO by Numbers" document with the group that broke down the proposed regional changes and counted the number of competitions and members within each proposed region using data from 2009 to 2012. The Board discussed the proposed four regions: Northeast, Southeast, Central and Far West. Ralph stated that the numbers show that the Central region may be large enough to split into north and south regions. Darlene explained that the RPO point of contact won't necessarily be responsible for each club in its region but rather just provide information about the clubs and events in their region. Darlene noted that voting issues at NDA are in part due to a lack of attendance at the NDA. She suggested a mail-in ballot so that better representations of voting members vote. The discussion went back to splitting the Central region. Although the numbers would support a split in this region, it was stated that there isn't anyone in the northern part of that region that would be able to take control of the RPO. Cindy said she is busy with her local club and would struggle with taking responsibility for an RPO. [This discussion was paused in order for Debbie to give the Junior Committee report. Discussion began again following Junior Committee report.] Cindy stated she is comfortable with keeping the Central region as one larger region with a point of contact in the SWAA part of the region. Ralph said that Ohio is the only state he is concerned about because it has a lot of members and it has recently had some organizational issues and has come to the national office for assistance. Because of relationships that have been formed between Ohio and Ralph, Ralph would like to include Ohio in the Northwest region so that it can be easy transitions for the individuals in that area. Cindy would like to know where to go from here with the RPO presentation. Cindy suggested she take back the questions and comments back to the RPO working group for edits and feedback. Barb said she would call the final project a pilot project. Cindy also noted that the voting discussion needs to be continued. Denise said that voting is a larger conversation than the RPO conversation. Cindy suggested that the RPO working group make recommendations to the Board in terms of voting. Barb said if this is a pilot program then bylaw changes would not be necessary until 2013. Jessie commented that she thinks some bylaw changes would be necessary in order to operate under the new plan.

**b. Junior Committee**

i. **2012 NJDC:** Debbie has been meeting with Lane regularly. Lane has created an online membership form on [www.simplyregister.com](http://www.simplyregister.com). Ralph has reviewed it for her and thinks it is very intuitive. This membership application is being used by USP for Track and Field Trials and has been successful for them. Debbie asked if everyone on the Board approved of this registration method. Everyone agreed. Debbie said invitations have been sent to officials. Lane will be handling travel plans for officials.

ii. **Donation:** A \$1000 donation was recently made to the Junior Committee by a friend of Jeannie Senter. Her donation was matched by Coca-Cola. This money is being set aside for a future IWAS trip.

iii. **Equipment:** Debbie shared a list of equipment items she would like to purchase in preparation for NJDC. She reviewed this list with the Board. Paul said that he spoke with Bill Gilbane at Gilbane Building Company and he has committed a \$10,000 donation to the organization. Paul proposes that the donation be split equally between junior programming and international teams. Debbie commented that some of this donation could be given to the NJDC LOC. Jessie commented that she's concerned if WASUSA gives money to NJDC then this



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may set a precedent that can't be met each year. In 2010, Cindy noted that NJDC was given half of the \$10,000 donation Gilbane made. However, at that time, the donation went directly from Gilbane to GLASA. Jessie said if the Board wanted some of this year's donation to go to NJDC that it the donation should once again go directly from Gilbane to the LOC rather than through WASUSA. Debbie will be reaching out Jennifer Johnson in table tennis to ask if they would like to financially support the purchase of table tennis equipment on her list. Debbie said that the powerlifting STC may also be able to cover the cost for powerlifting equipment on the list.

**4. Chair's Report:** Barbara Chambers reported.

- a. **USA IWAS Athlete Survey:** Barb would like to resend the survey.
- b. **Website:** Barb made the executive decision to transfer responsibility of the website to Darlene and Jessie. There have been frustrations with the website for quite some time, which is why Barb would like to transfer responsibility to individuals that are able to commit time to the website. Darlene and Jessie will report updates at next meeting.

**5. Immediate Past Chair's Report:** Paul DePace reported.

- a. **Meeting with Bill Gilbane, Gilbane Building Company:** Paul previously discussed his meeting with Bill Gilbane and the \$10,000 donation the company will be making to WASUSA.
- b. **US Fencing:** Paul hopes to set up a meeting between the CEO of US Fencing and himself and Ralph.
- c. **IWASF Executive Retreat:** Paul attended this retreat in Moscow. He reported it was a great meeting.
- d. **IWASF World Games and IWASF World Junior Games:** IWASF voted to approve Alacante, Spain as the host of the 2013 IWASF World Games and Puerto Rico as the host of the IWASF World Junior Games.

**6. Vice Chair's Report:** Denise Hutchins reported.

- a. **IPC Athletics Classifiers' Education Course:** Denise attended this course in Germany and passed the course. Dr. Pam Wilson, Pam Carey and Kathe Hickey have been named trainee IPC classifiers.
- b. **Classification Education:** Denise worked with the three individuals that will be creating the WASUSA Classification Education curriculum over the last month. The first step of this program is to get it online and available to all.

**7. Treasurer's Report:** Mike Burns reported. Mike discussed the financial report for the first quarter of 2012. Darlene asked if the National office had received payment from USP for administrative works with the military grant we received. Ralph said he recently received the contract and is in the process of reviewing it. Jessie asked about WASUSA's tax letter from the IRS. The current letter in the National office does not have our most up to date name. Mike is going to look into this and report back.

**8. Office Report:** Ralph Armento reported

- a. **Membership:** There are 335 members as of May 8. This number is significantly higher than this same time in 2011. Ralph is going to create an information sheet for Recreational membership so that individuals know that a Recreational membership is only good for one competition.
- b. **Insurance:** Ralph will be getting quotes from insurance companies for coverage in 2013.
- c. **Buckeye and West Virginia Games:** Ralph assisted at both the Buckeye Games and the West Virginia Games. He noted the successes and failures of both competitions and plans to share his comments with the LOC's to make their next Games better.



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- d. **Level 1-3 Criteria – Draft of Comparison Sheet:** Ralph created a draft document that lists criteria for different level competitions. He will ask representatives from each sport to review the document.

**9. Committee Reports**

a. **STCs and NGBs:**

i. **STCs:**

- 1. **Powerlifting:** No report given.
- 2. **Table Tennis:** No report given.
- 3. **Archery:** No Report at this time.
- 4. **Swimming:** Glen O’Sullivan reported. Glen was at Lakeshore Foundation for their Splash at the Shore as a Technical Official. The meet was small but went well. Glen will also be at Gateway Games and Thunder in the Valley as a Swim Classifier.

ii. **NGB’s**

- 1. **Track and Field:** No report given.

b. **Athlete Advisory:** No report given.

**10. Old Business**

- a. **Strategic Planning Committee:** No report given.

**11. New Business**

- a. **Adult Nationals:** Cindy would like help promoting Adult Nationals. She will send everyone the information so that it can be shared.

**12. Next Meeting: June 19, 2012 – 7pm EST**