



Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA
Executive Board of Directors Meeting
June 19, 2012

7:00 – 10:10 pm EST

Present: Deb Armento, Ralph Armento, Mike Burns, Barbara Chambers, Paul DePace, Jessica Galli, Phil Galli (joined at 7:25pm)

Absent: Gregg Baumgarten, Tommy Chasanoff, Cindy Housner, Darlene Hunter, Denise Hutchins, Glen O'Sullivan

1. Call to order by Barbara Chambers, Chair

2. May 8, 2012 Minutes: Paul moved to pass the May 2012 minutes. Mike 2nd. Motion carried.

3. Chair's Report: Barbara Chambers reported.

- a. **National Delegates Assembly:** The 2013 NDA will be held in Rochester, MN. Ralph has been in communication with the hosts for this event. The Kahler Hotel will be the host for the event. The room rate will be \$82 per night plus tax. Ralph is currently reviewing the contract sent to him by the LOC. He is also working to create an agenda with Barb. They will have a draft agenda by our next meeting. The tentative dates for the meeting are Thursday, October 11 through Sunday, October 14, 2012.
- b. **IWAS Survey:** No new surveys were received. The survey will be sent out again.
- c. **ADF Account Brochure:** Barb edited and revamped the ADF Account brochure. Barb would like the Board to review it and give their ideas and edits.

4. Immediate Past Chair's Report: Paul DePace reported.

- a. **Meeting with Bill Gilbane, Gilbane Building Company:** Paul met with Bill Gilbane and the Gilbane Building Company kindly has agreed to make a donation to both WASUSA and to the 2012 NJDC. Their donation to WASUSA is in the amount of \$10,000. Gilbane Building Company has an office in Puerto Rico and has also agreed to help support the 2013 IWASF World Junior Games, which will take place in Puerto Rico.
- b. **US Fencing:** Paul will set up a call between himself, US Fencing and Ralph to continue discussions on the memorandum of understanding between WASUSA and US Fencing.
- c. **New England Wheelchair Games:** Paul said the New England Wheelchair Games did not take place this year due to low attendance. Paul is concerned as this is his home meet and he is concerned for the local athletes that are not being offered a competition in their area. Ralph said unfortunately this has been a trend in many areas of the country. He thinks the current economic times are leading to this decline in some areas. Paul said this would be a good discussion for the NDA. During this discussion, Ralph mentioned Joe Walsh as a resource for the New England area. Jessie then mentioned that Joe Walsh has left the USOC. She is unaware of his current job but she knows he is living in the New England. Jessie also noted that Carol Mushett is no longer with BlazeSports.

5. Vice Chair's Report: No report given.

6. Treasurer's Report: Mike Burns reported. Mike said he recently received a large ADF fund request. This raised a question in his mind that a policy needs to be included in the ADF Account information that states expenses will not be reimbursed if they have already been reimbursed by another entity. Mike has received the \$500 donation from a donor that was discussed on the last call. He said we need to create an application process for individuals that would like to apply to receive this money as assistance for NJDC. Criteria will also need to be established for this. It was suggested the grant amount per athlete be \$230 to cover the cost of registration and one banquet ticket. This is modeled after the SWAA scholarship that currently exists. Information on the WASUSA Jr. Committee Scholarship will be announced on the WASUSA website, on Facebook and via email.

7. Office Report: Ralph Armento reported

- a. **ADF Accounts:** Ralph has recently received ADF fund requests for purchases made years ago. This sparked a conversation between Barb and Ralph about creating a policy that states a timeline for submission of requests for



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funds. Ralph would like to include the wording “expenses will not be accepted past December 31st of the following year of the purchase.” Phil said he has a slight concern with this idea. He asked if it would be better or easier to say that the individual has 12 or 18 months from the date of purchase to submit for reimbursement. Ralph said he feels the December 31st deadline would be easier for him to keep track of. Phil then asked if funds can be requested from an ADF account if the account was set up after the purchase of the item. He feels the Board needs to come to an agreement on this issue and create a policy for it as well.

- b. **Background Checks:** Barb asked Ralph if everyone on the Board has completed their checks. He said that there are still some individuals that need to do it. Barb strongly encourages everyone to do this by the next Board meeting.
- c. **Insurance:** Ralph has been busy processing insurance requests. After NJDC, Ralph will visit with WASUSA’s current broker to discuss how they can make Ralph’s job easier on the administration side of things.
- d. **Combined Federal Campaign:** Ralph would like to work with someone with a veterans’ connection to increase participation in the CFC.
- e. **Meet Sanctioning & Reporting:** Ralph has received results from some meets very late. He is concerned with getting all of the data into the system in time for NJDC. Ralph recognizes that SAMS is time consuming and he thinks it’s necessary that more training be provided in the future. Ralph suggested YouTube videos be created to teach individuals how to use SAMS. Ralph said it also can be tedious for meet managers to collect membership from all registrants. He said this has caused some frustration between meet managers and the national office.
- f. **Development of Meet Database:** Ralph is creating a database to collect meet information that can be used for qualifying standards, sport records, etc.
- g. **Level 1-3 Criteria:** Ralph would like the Board to review the criteria he sent out previously.

8. Committee Reports

- a. **Junior Committee:** Deb Armento reported.
 - i. **Equipment:** Deb has presented her list of equipment to the Jr. Committee. She has requested bids from two companies. **Phil motioned that the Jr. Committee can spend up to \$4,300 on equipment purchases. Mike 2nd the motion. Motion carried.**
 - ii. **2012 NJDC:** Deb is working with the LOC to confirm the officials’ and classifiers’ lists. Deb has also been working with Jerry Clayton to finalize a list of track and field officials. Barb asked if Deb has received the final signed contract from Lane. Deb said she has not so she will check with Lane. Deb has spoken with the 2013 NJDC hosts about attending the 2012 NJDC. Lane has offered them a table at registration.
 - iii. **NJDC Grant:** Debbie will begin creating an application for the NJDC grant. Jessie and Mike suggested she check out the CAF Grant information to see how they request financial information from applicants.
 - iv. **2013 IWASF Junior World Games:** Phil wants the Board to begin discussions for fielding and supporting this team. He thinks it’s important that this information be created and disseminated as soon as possible. Jessie said that she thinks we should approach this team differently than we have in years past. She hopes WASUSA will be able to fully fund the team. If this is possible, it will allow WASUSA to reach out to athletes and invite them to compete rather than athletes having to express interest in competing. Jessie said she has had conversations with Cathy Sellers at USP to help support the track and field portion of the team. Cathy has included this as a line item on her 2013 budget that will be reviewed and approved in the fall. The group agreed to create standards for each sport and to disseminate the standards to potential athletes before NJDC, if possible.
- b. **STCs and NGBs:**



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i. STCs:

1. **Powerlifting:** No report given.
2. **Table Tennis:** No report given.
3. **Archery:** No Report at this time.
4. **Swimming:** No report given.

ii. NGB's

1. **Track and Field:** Phil Galli reported. Phil and Deb attended the GLASA Regional Games. Phil said the track and field portion of the competition went very well. Phil has been working with many others to modernize the IPC Athletics slides were originally created by Chris Cohen. The group has sent the presentation to USATF and has requested it be included in Associations level officials training. Phil will share the presentation with the Board.

c. RSOs: No report given.

d. Athlete Advisory: No report given.

9. Old Business

- a. **Website:** Jessie Galli reported. Darlene has been working hard on creating the new website. Jessie has been helping her. Jessie said that Darlene has reached out to several people asking for information or ideas about the website. Some have been good about getting back to her while others have not been as responsive.
- b. **Strategic Plan Update:** Paul had a conversation with Bill Gilbane that was very productive. Phil will be contacting Mr. Gilbane soon to further discuss his involvement in the organization.

10. New Business

11. Next Meeting: July 10, 2012 – 7pm EST