

**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL**

Monday, June 13, 2022
5:00 p.m. Mountain Time

Present:

Bruce Baumgartner, President, Chairman
Herb House, 1st Vice President
Joan Fulp, 2nd Vice President
Kerry McCoy, Secretary
Van Stokes, Treasurer
Mike Macchiavello
John Stefanowicz
Rob Cate
Craig LaMont
Mallory Velte
Veronica Carlson
Mike Juby
James Ravannack, Immediate Past President
Rich Bender, Executive Director, ex-officio
Les Gutches, Associate Executive Director for Programs and Strategy
Gary Abbott, Director of Communications
Laura Peeters, General Counsel
Cody Bickley, Director of National Teams High Performance
Megan Ball, Executive Assistant

Absent:

Nate Engel
Steven Thorpe
Stan Dziedzic, United World Wrestling

1. PRESIDENT'S GREETING

President Bruce Baumgartner welcomed the committee and explained the late change in the date for the meeting, due to it falling right during Final X, making it difficult to do then. He congratulated Mallory Velte for making the Senior World Team.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 11 MEETING, AND THE MAY 17 SPECIAL MEETING

Motion to approve the May 11 minutes, as well as the minutes from the May 17 Special meeting, made by Joan Fulp. Second by Mallory Velte. Approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bruce Baumgartner reported that he had attended both Final X events, as well as the Hall of Fame induction ceremony and the Beat the Streets Benefit. He also noted that he had some meetings and meals with leaders of clubs and various sponsors. He said morale is high and those events should make wrestling proud. He noted the next Executive Committee meeting would be on July 13. He said that he was going to Colorado Springs for the USOPC Assembly, as well as for the in-person Long Range Planning Committee meeting.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Rich Bender noted that the last few weeks had been busy and excellent for wrestling. He noted that USA Wrestling was constantly learning and getting better. He was proud of USA Wrestling and grateful for the work of countless volunteers. The rest of the report would come in other agenda items.

5. USOPC UPDATE

Rich Bender explained the various activities at the USOPC Olympic Assembly, including the Board meeting, the NGB Council meeting and the Olympic Hall of Fame induction. He noted that John Smith was not elected and commented on a flaw in the process. He noted that one of the most important decisions would come on July 6, when the USOPC elects a new president. He said the candidates were Dexter Payne (US Ski/Snowboard) and Gene Sykes (leader of LA28 bid). Mallory Velte noted that she will arrive for the Athlete Advisory Committee meeting and will serve as a speaker on a panel of athlete leaders.

6. BOARD EDUCATION

Bruce Baumgartner reminded the Executive Committee that some Board members needed to complete the Board and Committee education which USA Wrestling must do to complete its USOPC compliance requirement. The Board needs this done by late July.

7. CORPORATE RESOLUTION DOCUMENTS

The Committee was presented with three corporate resolution documents, which were a formality in order to open bank account and other finance matters. Van Stokes said he reviewed the documents and the signers and was in support of this. Van Stokes made the motion to approve the documents, with second from Joan Fulp. Approved.

8. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Van Stokes reported the Finance Committee met on May 23, and reviewed statements through April 30. He noted the organization was well ahead of its budget, which was \$1.4 million ahead at the time of the meeting. He said that the company was financially stable.

He noted the June 6 Finance meeting where the committee met with Rich Bender, Les Gutches and department directors for a first review of Fiscal Year 2023 budget proposal. He said the committee learned a lot during the call. He noted another meeting was set for June 27, and that he was optimistic that at that meeting, there will be a budget that the Finance Committee can approve and present to the Board of Directors. Rich Bender praised Les Gutches for his efforts to make this one of the smoothest budget processes ever.

9. ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

John Stefanowicz noted that things were well with the AAC, and that interim members had been assigned for openings on the committee. There are still two at-large appointments to the AAC Board which will be appointed.

10. D, E & I COMMITTEE REPORT

Kerry McCoy noted the next call would be held Wednesday of this week, The group is working on an education plan for staff and members. He noted that this would be presented to the organization, along with the celebration calendar which had been created by the committee. Kerry McCoy noted the 50th anniversary of Title IX would happen on June 23. He said the committee was continuing discussion and review of the organization's transgender policy. Bruce Baumgartner noted the discussion on the transgender policy issue during recent USOPC meetings.

Kerry McCoy asked for an update on the issue about the U.S. U20 Pan American Team women's member who wished to wear the "Women's Classic Style" uniform instead of the traditional singlet due to religious reasons. He was updated that United World Wrestling was still reviewing that request, and USA Wrestling had sent letters supporting the athlete to both Nenad Lalovic of UWW and Francisco Lee of UWW America. UWW had sent the matter to the technical commission and the medical commission. At this point, UWW had not given its response to USA Wrestling

11. SAFE SPORT UPDATE

Laura Peeters noted that USA Wrestling's administrative audit was complete. She mentioned there were still some outstanding Safe Sport cases with the U.S. Center for Safe Sport. She noted that there is a long way to go to get the Center where it is achieving its mission.

She noted the USOPC audit was 98% finished and it would be completed by this Friday. She thanked Megan Ball for her efforts on this important project.

12. WOMEN'S WRESTLING UPDATE

Joan Fulp gave updates on the efforts in New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and South Carolina to get an official championship for high school girls in those states. She also reported that she attended a Beach wrestling event in California, which was conducted very well.

13. LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Van Stokes noted that an in-person meeting was set for June 28-30 in Colorado Springs and would be moderated by USOPC facilitator Avery Wilson. Survey questions were sent to the committee in advance, which will help the organization to update and refresh its Long Range Plan.

14. UNITED WORLD WRESTLING UPDATE

Rich Bender noted that UWW Executive Board member Peter Bacsa of Hungary attended Final X as a guest of USA Wrestling. He noted that in the next UWW Bureau meeting, UWW would address moving the 2023 Worlds out of Russia, with Budapest or Istanbul as possible locations.

15. NEW BUSINESS

Bruce Baumgartner reminded everyone that for the August 13 Board of Directors meeting, there would be elections. Advertising for candidates was underway. He also noted that in the updated bylaws, all groups must have their Board members in place before the Board meeting begins.

Kerry McCoy noted that the emails for the required Board training came from Board Span, and might be difficult to know what they are. He recommended checking spam folders to make sure members received the email.

The Committee talked about the future of Final X as part of the Senior World Team selection process. Rich Bender said the Trials procedures were being evaluated and a first meeting had been held with ideas on how to adjust the process. Feedback from a variety of stakeholders indicated the need for this review. Cody Bickley was leading this review process.

Bruce Baumgartner congratulated Kerry McCoy for his induction to the New York Athletic Club Hall of Fame in June, as well as wrestler Kristie Davis who is also being honored.

Motion to adjourn by Kerry McCoy, seconded by Mike Juby.
Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.