

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019
5:00 PM Mountain Time

Present:

Bruce Baumgartner, President, Chairman
Mark Reiland, 1st Vice President
Greg Strobel, 2nd Vice President
Kerry McCoy, Secretary
Van Stokes, Treasurer
Veronica Carlson
Mike Juby
Louis Rosbottom
Rick Tucci
James Ravannack, Immediate Past President
Rich Bender, Executive Director, ex-officio
Gary Abbott, Director of Communications
Dan Prochnow, Safe Sport Director
Haley Scherr, Executive Assistant

Absent:

Kyven Gadson
Pat Smith
Steven Thorpe
Stan Dziedzic, UWW Vice President

1. WELCOME, ROLL CALL

President Bruce Baumgartner welcomed the committee and took roll call.

2. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2019 MINUTES

Louis Rosbottom asked for a correction in the draft November 12 minutes, to indicate that he had attended that meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 Executive Committee as amended made by Greg Strobel. Second by Mark Reiland.

Approved.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Van Stokes mentioned, in regards to the annual audit, that the auditors must speak with the Audit Committee, and then it would come to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee met on November 25, and looked at internal statements. The new fiscal year started with \$2.8 million in

unrestricted funds. The Committee will review and update the Finance Policy Manual in its next meeting. The Committee discussed the September 2019 data, and it was a good month, with membership showing an increase. Rich Bender noted that USA Wrestling has had solid financial performance in the first three months of this fiscal year, and through November the organization was on budget.

4. SAFE SPORT UPDATE

Dan Prochnow noted that there are 42 open wrestling files at the U.S. Center for Safe Sport, with some as long as two years in the system. He noted that there are 13 filed for this season, and 12 have been closed. The Safe Sport Task Force held a successful meeting. The Task Force formed three subgroups to work on three specific questions. Each group has a coordinator and two other members. The topics are: 1) How do we effectively reach our minor athletes; 2) How do we get local clubs to more strongly embrace Safe Sport? 3) New parent orientation materials. Dan Prochnow praised Veronica Carlson for her efforts leading these initiatives.

Dan Prochnow noted that he has been on conference calls which have included the Safe Sport Coordinators among NGBs, as well at the USOPC and the U.S. Center for Safe Sport. A number of topics were discussed. A key takeaway is that the NGBs are seeking better communication from the Center, and better collaboration from the Center. He also noted that USA Wrestling had its Safe Sport audit with the Center staff on November 20, and it went well. He thanked Tony Black and Dave Mathews for their efforts. He also noted that there will be Safe Sport audits at National and Regional Events in 2020, with more information to come.

Mike Juby asked if there would be Safe Sport audits at local tournaments, and also asked about participation by State Safe Sport coordinators. Dan Prochnow noted that there will be no Safe Sport audits at state or local events in 2020, but that could start in 2021. He also noted that between 20-25 State Safe Sport coordinators are attending their regular conference calls.

5. UWW AMERICAS MEETING UPDATE

Rich Bender reported on the UWW Americas meeting held in Fort Lauderdale, an all-day meeting with the UWW Executive Board. There were 14 items on the agenda. Included were discussions on Qualifying events for the Olympics and Pan American Games; making wire transfers mandatory for Pan American events; developing referees in the hemisphere; the UWW elections after the Olympic Games. He praised the Council's president, Francisco Lee of Guatemala, for doing a nice job in his role, and also for becoming more influential in the overall sports community in the hemisphere. Rich Bender noted that the UWW Americas has advanced, including a full-time employee in Yuri Maier. Rich also thanked USA Wrestling staff member Derek Sikora for his work on this event.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Kerry McCoy asked about the new WADA announcement concerning Russia. Rich Bender noted that there was a lot to be learned, and the international sports community is taking a wait-and-see approach. WADA has sanctioned the Russian Sports Federation. Currently, we should expect Russian wrestlers at the international wrestling events. There will be wrestlers who will argue that they are clean and can compete. Part of the ruling is that Russia would be barred from hosting major international events. Currently then 2022 World Wrestling Championships are set for Krasnoyarsk, Russia. It will remain to be seen what UWW will do concerning the Worlds in Russia. A lot will be decided if Russia appeals (which is expected), and then what happens at the CAS hearings of that appeal, and if there are any loopholes in how it is implemented.

Rich Bender noted the passing of Brian Keck, who was a talented Greco-Roman wrestler and served as an event director with USA Wrestling at the USA Wrestling Preseason Nationals. The USA Wrestling family has lost leader who has made an impact on the sport.

Kerry McCoy asked about the status of Board members getting their active membership. It was noted that two of the three who were not members had become members, and just one is now not active. Rich Bender thanked Kerry McCoy for his work on getting the Board to be fully compliant.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EVALUATION

The Committee went into Executive Session to discuss the Executive Director's evaluation at 5:32 p.m. Mountain time.