

**MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL**

September 10, 2019  
5:00 PM Mountain Time

**Present:**

Bruce Baumgartner, President, Chairman  
Mark Reiland, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Greg Strobel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Kerry McCoy, Secretary  
Van Stokes, Treasurer  
James Ravannack, Immediate Past President  
Veronica Carlson  
Mike Juby  
Louis Rosbottom  
Steven Thorpe  
Rich Bender, Executive Director, ex-officio  
Dwayne Cooper, Associate Executive Director  
Ryan Johnson, Director of Sponsor Relations  
Dan Prochnow, Safe Sport Director

**Absent:**

Kyven Gadson  
Rick Tucci  
Pat Smith  
Stan Dziedzic, UWW Vice President

**1. WELCOME, ROLL CALL**

President Bruce Baumgartner welcomed the committee and took roll call.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 MINUTES**

**Motion** to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 Executive Committee made by Mark Reiland. Second by

**Approved.**

**3. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Dwayne Cooper reported that staff has recently prepared the preliminary July 31 month end statement and is ahead of budget by \$411K. It appears that August will be on budget or slightly better and he does expect that the year will end ahead of budget. The cash budget is sufficient to

carry the organization through the fall which is generally the leaner months. Membership has come in at an excellent pace for September 2019. Budgeted for September 2019 was 1mil in revenue for the month of September, and only nine days into September has brought in just under \$600K.

The insurance renewal was tough this year, the sport accident insurance stayed pretty close to the same numbers, the DNO has about 3-4% increase, but the Directors and Officers insurance coverage skyrocketed. Out of 43 carriers, only 2 would even provide a quote. The total premium difference between last year and the upcoming year: 2019 (\$30K) and for FY20 (\$150K) – which was an unbudgeted expense for USAW. Staff will continue to monitor the market, and if the market softens, we will cancel the policy and renew at a lower rate. The DNO deductible went from \$5K (per claim) to \$50K, and ENO deductible went up to \$75K, for the state associations the deductible went from \$5K per claim to \$100K per claim. We will continue to monitor and change if possible.

Bender commented that the NGB council will meet later this month and discuss this topic and noted that some NGB's were unable to bind coverage.

#### **4. WOMEN'S PROCEDURES**

The Women's Sport Committee presented Womens procedures for Executive Committee approval.

**Motion.** Greg Strobel – “to approve the Women's Pan American Games Qualifiers Procedures, the 2019 World Cup Procedures and the athlete selections procedures for 2020 Olympic Games”.  
**Second-Mark Reiland. Motion carried.**

#### **5. SAFE SPORT REPORT**

Dan worked with Corey James and Cody Bickley to create the Coaches concussion management plan along with an infographic. For the 19-20 season we are encouraging all wrestling leaders to go onto the CDC website to take concussion training. There are plans that eventually our safe sport training will include concussion training with a shared interface between USA Wrestling and the CDC.

The Center does expect to see a slight rise in cases over the next 1-2 years. With safety protocols in place it usually takes about 3-5 years before they see a decline in reports. There are 60 open cases at the US Center for SafeSport, with the vast majority for sexual misconduct allegations, 8 open files case (non-sexual) at USA Wrestling and one in appeal.

Bruce Baumgartner is working on appointing members for the SafeSport task force. Prochnow would prefer 1/3 athlete participation and would like to cap the committee at 9 members. Any

athletes interested should be directed to Dan or Haley. Once there are additional athlete interest, President Baumgartner will appoint the committee.

Recently a former member (Wayne Boyd) where USAW became aware of a criminal action (in California) that was in process concerning Wayne Boyd. The criminal actions involved several felonies regarding sexual misconduct and abuse. Subsequently he was found guilty. Once we were aware of the matters, USAW filed a report with the SafeSport Center.

USAW later became aware of an email that was sent out by Titan Mercury Wrestling Club to their membership (discussing the Wayne Boyd case, and which we believe was facilitated by Wayne Boyd) with several discrepancies of the facts. Prochnow did send an email addressing the discrepancies and is expecting TMWC to send out some form of notice to their membership clarifying the misstated facts.

Also at the US Center – is a matter regarding which arose from an email sent out by Noel Thompson (this summer) which made some outlandish statements and allegations. It referenced Mr. Bender and a few other members of USA Wrestling in these outlandish claims. But, since the claims had to do with alleged child sex rings among other things, we did forward this to the Center under our mandatory reporting rule. No action has been taken, and while Prochnow doesn't believe anything will come of the matter, since the allegations are rather far-fetched President Baumgartner thought the Executive Committee should be informed and will continue to keep the Committee informed of the situation.

## **6. WOMENS WRESTLING UPDATE**

Most people are aware of the ongoing the process of taking Womens Wrestling from an emerging sport to shortly thereafter to an NCAA Varsity sport. USAW has been actively involved in the Womens Collegiate Wrestling Coalition (WCW) – which Sally Roberts is actively involved in as well as other members of the existing womens collegiate wrestling community and a number of others that have an interest in seeing the growth of womens wrestling..

The NCAA suggested that it would be best if this committee became more official and suggested that USAW forms an ad-hoc Committee and the thought would be that Bruce names the Committee that exists and that committee would assist in the shepherding of the process to take womens wrestling through the emerging status (and ultimately Varsity status) and the oversight and running of the collegiate championships until it becomes an NCAA championships. There was unanimous support of the Committee to do this.

Baumgartner will be naming that committee and there is no responsibility of the Executive Committee pertaining to this committee. The event will be sanctioned by USA Wrestling and we're exciting about the opportunity to run the event.

## **7. RTC**

There was discussion at the Board Meeting regarding the Regional Training Sites language. The new version of the RTC agreement is provided (with input from coaches and several other individuals to include collegiate compliance officers).

USA Wrestling did forward the position statement (as the Board recommended that we did, for review) so that the Board can move forward with the distribution.

It's important for USA Wrestling to maintain the Regional Training Center concept and will change the rules, as needed if needed. USA Wrestling is excited to have continued collaborative discussion and included this statement in USA Wrestling Mission and Purpose Statement. It's a complicated challenge but this is a start to inform the community of our position.

Motion: Steve Thorpe – to approve USA Wrestling's position statement on the Regional Training Center.

Second: Louis Rosbottom.

Motion carried.

\*The Committee agreed if there was a word that was tweaked without changing the intent/spirit of the agreement, staff is entitled to do so.

## **8. RESOLUTION**

This is a reaffirmation of the Resolution No. 14 in which the Executive Committees shows public support of sanctioning Womens High School Wrestling with state high school activities associations. (changes made to include states that have recently joined). The resolution will be updated to list the current members of the Executive Committee.

Motion – Mark Reiland – “to support the reaffirmation of the Executive Committee Resolution No. 14”.

Second - Van Stokes

Motion carried.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

Bender informed the Committee that the teams have all arrived to their respective acclimation training camp locations prior to the World Championships in Kazakhstan and all looks to be on schedule.

Bender was sad to share that James Johnson who was both an incredibly impactful coach and national team competitor passed away in Phoenix on Sunday. This was a devastating blow to the organization. He had an appendicitis while in Astoria, and was hospitalized again once returning from the trip. He did fall and have a fairly serious head injury but the cause of death is unknown at this time.

As a reminder, Board Members need to renew membership for the 2020 membership year.

The USOPC selected Jordan Burroughs as the male US Olympic athlete of the month for his performance at the Pan American Games. Simone Biles was named as the female athlete of the month and the US Rugby Paralympic team named for the team award.

Meeting adjourned.

DRAFT