



**Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA
Executive Board of Directors Meeting
July 10, 2012**

7:00 – 9:50 pm EST

Present: Deb Armento, Ralph Armento, Mike Burns, Barbara Chambers, Paul DePace (joined at 8:15pm), Jessica Galli, Phil Galli, Cindy Housner, Darlene Hunter, Denise Hutchins, Glen O'Sullivan

Absent: Gregg Baumgarten, Tommy Chasanoff

1. Call to order by Barbara Chambers, Chair

2. June 19, 2012 Minutes: Glen moved to pass the June 2012 minutes. Phil 2nd. Motion carried.

3. Chair's Report: Barbara Chambers reported.

- a. **National Delegates Assembly:** Barb and Ralph put together a tentative schedule for the NDA. They're asking the Board to review it. The Board discussed how last year some attendees were upset with all of the "closed" meetings and the lack of other meetings or activities for them to attend. It was discussed that attendees be told they are welcome to attend most "closed" meetings but only as spectators. "Closed" meetings will be renamed "Executive" meetings. Ralph commented that more people are needed to fill committees. Darlene reminded the Board that she created a Committees' Survey following the 2011 NDA to solicit interested people to fill committees. This survey has not yet been sent to membership. Darlene also requested that a "Save the Date" email be sent out ASAP so that people can begin making plans and mark their calendars. Ralph will send out both the survey and the Save the Date by the beginning of next week.
- b. **Hall of Fame:** Barb shared her most updated Hall of Fame nominees document with the Board. This document has been developed since the 1980's and some information on nominees has been misplaced. Barb and Ralph are going to seek assistance from individuals to fill in any gaps within the document. Barb also noted that much of the older nominations are not stored electronically. She will be seeking assistance in adding this information to the document as well. Ralph suggested that nominations that are over a decade old be reevaluated and possibly retired. Denise commented on a nominee that is older on the list but she feels is worthy of the distinction. Jessie said that without Denise or others making her aware of someone's involvement and importance, she wouldn't vote for the older individuals because she isn't aware of their accomplishments. Denise suggested a list of all nominees in jeopardy of being retired be sent to the RSO's. RSO's will be asked to reply back with comments on nominees that they are familiar with and would like to see remain on the list. Barb would like to have a HOF presentation again at this year's NDA. There are funds in the HOF account that can be used to support the travel of nominees. Barb would like a ballot to go out in August.
- c. **2013 IWAS Jr. World Games:** Barb created a flyer with information about the Games and criteria athletes will need to meet in order to apply. She will add the logos for IWAS and the LOC logo before finalizing the document. Jessie requested a note be added that WASUSA is pursuing sponsors for the trip.

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

- a. **MOU with US Fencing:** Paul will be on the conference call with Ralph and US Fencing.
- b. **60th Anniversary of Stoke-Mandeville:** IWASF hoped to have a celebration in honor of IWASF's 60th anniversary during the Paralympic Games but because of the Games schedule this won't be possible. Instead, a dinner will be held later in the year.

5. Vice Chair's Report: Denise Hutchins reported.

- a. **Classification events:** Denise worked both the Desert Challenge and the USP Track & Field Trials as an international classifier. She reported that at the Trials there were two panels of physical impairment classifiers, one panel of blind classifiers, and one panel of intellectual impairment classifiers.
- b. **American Physical Therapy Association:** Denise will be doing a live blog talk with the head athletic trainer from the USOC and a physical therapist that works with US Sailing. Denise will be presenting on sports for athletes with a disability and how PT's can get involved as well as a general overview of the Paralympic movement.



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- 6. Treasurer's Report:** Mike Burns reported. Mike submitted a financial report to the Board. Mike reached out to the representative for the estate that has left money to WASUSA. He has not yet heard back. He also has received the \$10,000 donation from Gilbane Building Company. Phil also noted that WASUSA is still owed \$10,000 from USP via the Military Grant program. Darlene said that USP offers another \$25,000 grant that she thinks WASUSA should apply for to host sport clinics and trainings around the country in 2013.
- 7. Office Report:** Ralph Armento reported
- a. **Memberships:** There are currently 510 regular members registered for 2012. This is approximately the same as in 2011. This is reflective of the decrease in meet participation this year. Almost without exception, every WASUSA sanctioned meet was off at least 10-15%; with many exhibiting severe drops in participation. Most notably, New England, Ohio and Mid-Atlantic were affected. There was a significant increase in Recreational Memberships, as a function of the meet directors' buying into the concept of a one day, one meet membership. The memberships are still rolling in, so at this time Ralph does not have an accurate handle on the numbers.
 - b. **ADF Accounts:** Mike and Ralph have to finalize the second quarter numbers and issue the quarterly statements. Ralph has finalized Paypal and banking deposits for the second quarter.
 - c. **Insurance:** Ralph is planning a visit to IPNE in August.
 - d. **Combined Federal Campaign:** Ralph said that the CFC is now offering video feeds on the donor site.
 - e. **Meet Sanctioning & Reporting:** Ralph has received reports from all but four competitions.
 - f. **Development of Meet Database:** Ralph sent all Level 3 athletic records (over 2,000) to Phil. He has also reached out to Charlie Sheppard in order to update SAMS. The records update (junior) will be complete for NJDC.
 - g. **Level 1-3 Criteria:** Ralph has gathered input from many sport representatives and added their information to the complete document.
 - h. **NDA:** Ralph would like all committee reports to be submitted by July 31. Jessie suggested the deadline be extended until August sometime. She also suggested a form be created or some kind of example of a report be given to the RSO's for those RSO's that may not know how to create a report. Phil said that this should be the responsibility of the RSO representatives on the Board. Barb said that RSO's should be accountable for submitting a report. She suggest a policy be written that states that if a report is not submitted, an RSO will not be able to access their account funds.
 - i. **MOU with US Fencing:** Ralph has a conference call set up for July 13 with US Fencing.
 - j. **NJDC:** Ralph has been working with Deb on registration for NJDC. Jessie asked if it would be possible for the LOC or someone not in the National Office to be responsible for registration. She noted that this creates a lot of work for Ralph and prevents him from getting other tasks completed.
- 8. Committee Reports**
- a. **Junior Committee:** Deb Armento reported.
 - i. **NJDC:** Deb has been working with Charlie Sheppard to create online registration that will automatically input the information into SAMS. This registration system wasn't used this year but Deb hopes it will go into play next year.
 - ii. **2012 NJDC:** Gregg reached out to the Board following the last Board meeting to express concerns he has with some officials attending NJDC. Deb reached out to Lane to discuss the concerns brought to her



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attention. Debbie noted that the LOC is struggling to financially support NJDC. Lane has requested to not pay the \$25 per athlete fee that WASUSA charges. This charge is included in the contract that the LOC signed. Denise asked if Lane has submitted her budget to Debbie and Debbie said that she has not yet received one. Denise said she is concerned with WASUSA providing money before a budget is reviewed by WASUSA. Barb and Phil supported Denise's comments. Phil said that the \$25 fee is an important revenue source for WASUSA and he does not feel our organization can forgo that income.

iii. **2012 NJDC Scholarship:** Nineteen athletes applied and seven athletes were awarded scholarships. An additional \$500 was donated, which is why seven scholarships were able to be awarded. Athletes were required to have a financial need in order to be considered. Deb will share the full list of recipients with the Board.

b. STCs and NGBs:

i. STCs:

1. **Powerlifting:** Debbie Armento reported. Debbie is working on completing the Powerlifting portion of the Sanctioning document.
2. **Table Tennis:** Jennifer Johnson submitted report electronically. Jennifer would like to ask for the Board's approval in subsidizing the expense of two participants at a classification seminar with an amount of \$1,000 from the table tennis fund to be shared by them for their expenses. **Debbie motioned to approve the use of \$1000 from the table tennis fund with the stipulations that the seminar actually takes place and that the two recipients be members of WASUSA. Glen 2nd the motion. Motion carried.**
3. **Archery:** Mike Burns reported. Mike is working on completing the Archery portion of the Sanctioning document.
4. **Swimming:** Glen O'Sullivan reported. Glen has completed the swimming portion of the Sanctioning document. He added that back-up timing is also required for a Level 3 meet. Glen plans to use the Can-Am swim standards for the IWAS 2013 competition.

ii. NGB's

1. **Track and Field:** Phil Galli reported. Phil said that the groups in his area are making headway in the Northeast region thanks in part to the NYC Park District and to grants from BP. Phil is working with Ralph on updating Junior records. He also reported that the disabled portion of the USATF Officials' test has been completed and has been shared with USATF. It is awaiting approval from USATF.

c. **RSOs:** No report given.

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

9. Old Business

- a. **Website:** Darlene asked for Board members to review the picture currently used on the website and to submit a new one if they would prefer a different picture. For those that do not yet have a picture online, they should submit a picture to Darlene or Jessie. Darlene asked that the Board review the other pages on the website and respond with edits and comments. **Deb motioned for WASUSA to pay the \$100/year cost to upgrade the website package to Pro. Phil 2nd the motion. Motion carried.** Following the meeting, Jessica upgraded the website but while doing so discovered the cost for a one-year upgrade was actually \$122.90. Jessica sent out a request via email for a friendly amendment to the motion that carried in the Board meeting. **Glen motioned for WASUSA to pay the \$122.90 cost to upgrade the website package to Pro. Darlene 2nd the motion. Motion carried.**

10. New Business

11. Next Meeting: August 7, 2012 – 7pm EST