



**U.S. Biathlon Association, Board of Directors Meeting
By Teleconference, 24 February 2016
Meeting Minutes, Submitted by Art Stegen, Secretary**

I. Call to Order

Chairman, Bill Burke called to order the Board of Directors meeting of the U.S. Biathlon Association at Pineland Farms, New Gloucester, Maine on February 24, 2016 at 3:00 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members of the Board of Directors present for the teleconference were: Bill Burke, Art Stegen, Jerry Baltzell, Sarah Konrad, Phyllis Jalbert, Bill Alford, Brian Olsen, Sarah Konrad, Bitsey Kelley, Susan Miller, and Jim Page. Also attending the meeting were CEO/President Max Cobb, Director of Sport Bernd Eisenbichler, and Ed Williams. The members present represented a quorum.

III. Opening Remarks

Bill Burke thanked the members for their attendance and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. He asked for approval of the minutes from the previous meeting which he received and was so approved. He then turned the meeting over to CEO/President Max Cobb.

IV. CEO/President's Remarks

Max asked for Bernd Eisenbichler to provide an update for the season thus far and plans leading into the World Championships.

Bernd explained that he and the staff were pleased with the season that started at Sjusshoen in Norway and that the first World Cup showed good preparation for higher levels of performance. The athletes had a better start than last year. Good performance followed after the Christmas break and the relocation of the World Cup at Oberhof gave the team two weeks at Ruhpolding. He felt the women still needed improvement and that new athlete Joanne Reid and Maddie Phaneuf's results were better than expected and they had been invited to the World Cup to gain some experience. The North American World Cup served to peak the athletes' performance. The World Youth/Junior Championships were well organized and good results were achieved by Maddie Phaneuf and Sean Doherty. Sean became the all-time most medaled junior athlete, which brings lots of respect for the program. The North American world cup relays were solid and the Presque Isle competitions were extremely exciting when the team did incredibly well and showed excellent depth. This built great confidence going into the World Championships. The Youth Olympic Games was

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another indication of potential for the future with top ten results for both individuals and team.

Bill Burke added to Bernd's report by saying that it was very fulfilling to attend the World Cups at Ruhpolding and Presque Isle. He supported Bernd's statement that "we have a very good argument to the USOC for medal potential for Korea", noting that Sean Doherty is ahead of predictions with two top 20 finishes at the World Cup. Susan Dunklee has proven podium potential and that the USOC learned at Presque Isle that biathlon medal prediction is very difficult, but that potential is real.

V. Financial

Brian Olsen, a member of the Audit Committee updated the discussion of uncertainty of the financial status. The Foundation is working to shore up the financial picture. It is a primary concern of the committee. A draft of the 990 Tax form is being prepared and a revised budget was distributed. It is expected to have a \$28,000 surplus at the year-end due to strong results of the team and broadcasting revenue. That surplus may increase since some funding from USOC is performance based. An additional \$100,000 may be available if the program is able to meet four different markers. The team has achieved one of these and half of two others. The team needs to have one man finish in the top 10 and a woman in the top 12 to complete those markers. The third is to have a team finish well in the mixed relay. \$75,000 may be in jeopardy, but \$82,000 will still become available.

VI. Athletes' Report

Brian Olsen reported on the excellent performance by the team and that the International Competition Committee sees additional potential for the IBU Cups. He reported that there were no particular concerns among the athletes at this time.

VII. IBU and USOC Issues

Max Cob reported that good broadcasting ratings in Europe pleased IBU and marketing partners. There is renewed interest in hosting events at Soldier Hollow and that site is working towards re-licensing with thoughts of potential bidding for IBU events. The Russian doping issues continue to be a major concern at IBU and USOC levels. The USOC is currently involved in Summer Games preparation and putting the Los Angeles bid for the 4024 Games front and center.

VIII. New Business

A vacancy on the Audit Committee which is chaired by an independent board member was filled by Susan Miller. Attendance at the World Championships in Oslo was discussed and the date for the next meeting was set for June 17-18, at Pineland Farms

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 P.M.