



**U.S. Biathlon Association, Board of Directors Meeting
June 18, 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 June, 18th, 2016 at 8:00 A.M.

II. Roll Call

Members of the Board of Directors present for the meeting were: Bill Burke, Art Stegen, Bill Alford, Jerry Baltzell, Susan Miller, Sarah Konrad, Phyllis Jalbert, and Jim Paige. Present by teleconference were Bitsy Kelly and Lowell Bailey. Also attending the meeting were CEO/President Max Cobb, Director of Sport Bernd Eisenbichler, Mathew Lord 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

Thanking the members for attending the previous day's Committee meetings, the previous evening's well-attended dinner as guests of Phyllis Jalbert, Max asked for Bernd Eisenbichler to provide a review of the past season and plans for the 2016-17 season.

Bernd began his report by stating that there has been eight years of remarkable progress. Since the post-Olympic year of 2015 when there were disappointments, changes were needed and these resulted in satisfaction. He highlighted the fact that the athletes were close to the podium 18 times at the final stage of shooting and succeeded twice. He announced a new setup and structure in Lake Placid that results in a good coach/athlete relationship and gender specific with an individualized approach to shooting. Performance checkpoints and work on mental approach were important components. The USOC resource of Sean McCann was proving extremely helpful. For the Pyeong Chang strategy the "Fast Ski Project" was continuing and a new psychology project, shooting consolation, training cooperation and health management were all being strengthened.

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Max then reported on the ICC National Team nominations and asked for approval. A motion was made and approval accepting the ICC recommendations. He also asked for a motion to approve the ICC's team selection criteria which was also made and approved. Sean Doherty and Maddie Phaneuf were to be awarded the Walter Williams junior awards for their excellent performances at the World Junior Biathlon Championships.

V. IBU/USOC Matters

In updating IBU actions Max mentioned that Jim Carrabre was to be commended for his efforts against doping. Lowell Bailey had been chosen as one of four athletes on the IBU Athlete's Committee that is designed to provide feedback to the IBU Executive Committee. Most recently that feedback has strongly spoken out against the current doping scandal involving Russia. The athletes feel strongly that the IBU can do more to push WADA to increase their efforts. Sarah Konrad, chair of the USOC Athletes Advisory Committee also mentioned that their committee is strongly pushing the USOC and WADA to act responsibly on issues of doping.

On other USOC issues, Max reported that the focus is currently on Rio's summer games, but there is continued strong support from the USOC for biathlon. The current USBA membership is 850 and on target to reach last year's high of 920. Utah's Soldier Hollow had received an IBU A license in anticipation of holding a World Cup at that site.

Concerning the budget and fund raising he reported that an initiative named in honor of Past Chairman Larry Pugh was very promising. The current budget was in line with resources and should not be in deficit but without surplus. Gifts from the USBA Foundation were expected to provide additional opportunities and the USOC funding remains constant. A motion to approve the budget was made and approved.

Max informed the Directors that Ruth Hall had resigned her position in the office and had been replaced temporarily through the winter. There has been a sponsor commitment for the hiring of an Executive Assistant.

VI. Committee Reports

Athlete's Report: Brian Olsen reported that there were not significant issues needing attention by the Directors.

Audit Report: Susan Miller referenced the minutes from the committee's meeting on June 7th highlighting that there some minor issues with lateness and reconciliation.

Safety Report: There were no significant issues. The USOC Safe Sport committee provides resources and there is a potential withdrawal of USOC support for noncompliance.

National Guard: Reported on progress of the program and upgrades to facilities.

VII. New Business

Max encouraged the Directors to consider visits to the 2017 World Biathlon Championships and to think about the 2018 Olympic Games.

A tentative date for the next Regular Meeting was set for Lake Placid on October 8-9, 2016 in conjunction with the Annual Awards and Recognition dinner.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 A.M.