



**U.S. Biathlon Association, Annual Meeting
3:00 P.M. February 14, 2019
Meeting Minutes, Submitted by Art Stegen, Secretary**

I. Call to Order

Co-Chairman, Bill Alfond called to order the Annual meeting of the U.S. Biathlon Association at the Homestead Resort, Midway, Utah on 14th of February, 2019 at 3:00 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members of the Board of Directors present for the meeting were: Bill Alfond, Bob Hall, Art Stegen, Phyllis Jalbert, Art Stegen. Joining the meeting via telephone conference call were Jerry Baltzell, Sarah Konrad, Lowell Bailey, Halley Steward and Jim Page. Susan Miller and Sarah Hall were absent. Also attending the meeting were CEO/President Max Cobb, High Performance Director Bernd Eisenbichler, Tim Burke, John Morton, Tom Kelly, Scott Riswald, Mark Torriesani, Peter Karns, Jurgen Bess, Richard Sloman and Happ Brakely. The members present represented a quorum.

III. Opening Remarks

Bill Alfond welcomed the members and thanked them for their attendance. He reviewed the agenda for the meeting and asked for approval of the minutes from the previous meeting which was seconded and so approved. He explained that the annual audit had not yet been received and therefor no report would be available.

IV. Review of Election

Max Cobb reviewed the results of Proxy ballots in which 27% of the submitted meet athlete status and thus represented a quorum. The nomination committee's recommendation that Bill Alfond and Bob Hall become co-chairs of the Board of Directors following a By-Laws change permitting for co-chairs was approved without opposition. Nominations of Phyllis Jalbert as Treasurer and Art Stegen as Secretary were approved without opposition. The appointment of Dawson, Smith, Purvis and Bassett, P.A. for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 was also approved.

With three vacancies on the Board of Directors, Bob Hall nominated Hap Brakely for membership. Bob introduced Hap to the members present and provided some background of Hap's work in advertising and marketing. Suggesting he would provide in ideas Bob made a motion to nominate Hap to the Board of Directors and was seconded by Bill Alfond. The motion was approved and Hap joined the meeting, giving and gave an overview about digital marketing.

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Max followed-up by mentioning the live T.V. coverage and biathlon's presence in the market with goals to drive up funding. Biathlon world-wide is ranked 20th in viewership. He asked Tom Kelly to explain the points of digital access that brings better distribution of video content that better "tells" the story through "bucket" contacts. Tom, along with Jurgan Bess reviewed the marketing structure and the 7 points and a handbook to describe Facebook and Twitter posts.

V. Staff and Team Update

Max asked Bernd Eisenbichler to provide the members an update on the team and staff. He began by reviewing the many changes at the start of the season, expressing the thoughts that it would not be easy however the women's team had provided big surprises. He attributed the difference to returning coach Armin Auchentaller. The team had good IBU Cup results and new athlete leadership was evolving. The athletes are young and there needs to be a clear view over next year's resources directed towards key athletes. He explained that a key for the future will be regional centers creating a wider "footprint" for development. He reviewed the work being done at development levels with Tim Burke leading the clubs and camps, each necessitating slightly different requirements. Establishing programs such as Gold level USBA clubs, consistent coaching through coaching education and bringing back a National Junior team were all projects underway.

VI. Other Business

There is strong support for and raising interest in the Board awareness of the USBA Foundation and recruiting 10 to 15 members with the goal of fund raising by networking and creating an experience and benefits such as attending international events.

The Safe Sport requirements and compliance needs to include members of the Board of Directors with a deadline of March 30th. There have been no reportable incidents.

With remaining Board of Director vacancies it was expressed that the former USSA chair is interested in becoming a member. This will be discussed at the next Board of Directors meeting.

A USOC grant for \$75,000 has been submitted for the funding of a Chief Operating Officer.

VII. Adjournment

The potential date for Board of Directors next meeting was for June 21st at Pineland Farms in Maine. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M. and members were encouraged to attend the World Cup during the week following the meeting.