



**USLA Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 16, 2019
Teleconference**

MINUTES

- **Members Present:** Ms. Erin Hamlin, Mr. Adam Berlew, Ms. Nonie Manion, Mr. Scott McIntyre, Mr. Paul Baribault, Mr. Bob Hughes, Mr. Don Simkin, Mr. Pete Gillwald, Mr. Chris Mazdzer, Mr. Matthew Mortensen
- **Members Absent:** None
- **Staff Present:** Mr. Jim Leahy, Ms. Amy Chapin
- **Guest Present:** Ms. Julia Clukey

Call to Order: The meeting was call to order at 6:03PM ET by Ms. Erin Warren

Approval of Minutes from September 29, 2018

Ms. Warren asked for comments or corrections to the September 29th minutes and with none:
Motion to Approve the minutes by Mr. Pete Gillwald, seconded by Mr. Don Simkin. PASSED

Board Officers

After Board discussion and appropriate nominations and acceptance, Ms. Nonie Manion was elected Board Treasurer and Mr. Bob Hughes as Board Secretary.

At this time Ms. Julia Clukey spoke and thanked everyone for her time on the board. She then introduced Ms. Erin Hamlin, as the newly elected AAC rep, to fill her seat on the Board. Ms. Warren thanked Ms. Clukey for her commitment to the sport as a valued member of the USLA Board. At this time Ms. Clukey left the meeting.

CEO Report – Mr. Jim Leahy

Mr. Leahy gave his report with highlights as follows:

- U.S. hosted 2 World Cups this year including the first Junior World Cup (JWC) in quite some time. The JWC was in Salt Lake and World Cup (WC) in Lake Placid. Events were

a success both at the competitive level as well as with the organization and the FIL very happy with the JWC in particular.

- Concerning the Lake Placid WC there were numerous successful events held in conjunction with the WC including a sponsor dinner, on-site hospitality with over 400 VIP's attending over the weekend and an Executive Summit, all which were well received by the sponsors and guests. Of particular note was the solid TV numbers in Germany for the WC, better than previous years, due to the event being a SAT/SUN schedule, which had been a USA Luge goal for quite some time.
- Athlete results this season have been good. As of this meeting Summer Britcher sits 3rd in the WC standings, Emily Sweeney 9th, Chris Mazdzer 12th, Tucker West 14th and the Doubles team of Mazdzer/Terdiman 6th, just 1 point out of 5th. The U.S. Team relay team is in 4th just 5 points out of 3rd.
- In Juniors, 2 men are in top 15, Ashley Farquharson is in 8th, and the Doubles Team of Dana Kellogg and Duncan Segger is 5th. And finally the U.S. JNT sits 3rd in the Team Relay. In the Youth Division we have 4 men in the top 10 as well as 3 women in the top 10 and our Women's Doubles Team in 2nd out of a narrow field of 3.
- For the current High Performance Plan 3 out of 4 milestones have already been met for this season:
 1. Total Runs for JNT well on the way to being met.
 2. SNT over 150 prior to season start was met.
 3. Total 7 medals for SNT.
- Update on HQ progress – Final bids will be in by March 1st – Bids to be awarded by mid March and ground breaking expected by 4/1-4/15.
- There were a number of items in the New York State of the Union address that will have an impact on USA Luge. The Governor confirmed that ORDA will receive \$70,000,000 for capital projects which opens the possibility for additional construction including a new hospitality center at the track.

Athlete Report – Mr. Chris Mazdzer, Mr. Matt Mortensen

Mr. Mazdzer reported that the team is in Winterberg, Germany preparing and looking forward to the World Championships in 2 weeks. He commented that although we had a small team headed to Worlds the team was solid with excellent resources. The team was happy with the seven medals won so far this season.

Mr. Mazdzer then asked Mr. Leahy about training in St. Moritz for the athletes eligible for participation in next years Youth Olympic Games. Mr. Leahy responded by saying that six Junior athletes, who will be eligible to compete next year, were currently at the track training. Mr. Jon Owen was leading the team of US athletes and all seems to be going well. He further stated that over 150 athletes from around the world were participating in the training week.

Mr. Matt Mortensen reported that on the USOC Athletes Advisory Council side he addressed a situation where about 100 athletes recently put out a release demanding changes needed at USOC.

Club Report – Mr. Don Simkin and Mr. Pete Gillwald

Mr. Simkin reported that the Adirondack Club season is going well and opened on November 10th. He stated that an average of 12-15 participants through 10 sessions so far this year have been sliding at Mt. Van Hoevenberg. On January 6th the annual Icebreaker race was held with over 25 entries (Jr. and Masters). He reported that a number of club members helped out at the recent Lake Placid World Cup. He finished his report by stating a number of club sliders will be participating in the Empire State Games to be held on February 3rd and 4th.

Mr. Gillwald reported that it has been a busy season for the Wasatch Luge Club and getting ice time has been difficult with the added demands from bobsled and skeleton. He reported that the club recently raised over \$27,000 via “Jan’s Winter Welcome” to help support club functions including help in rebuilding Jr. start. He finished his report by stating that the club is looking forward to working with USLA when JNT Nationals will be hosted in Park City in March.

Ms. Warren thanked Mr. Gillwald and the Wasatch Luge Club for hosting an event for USLA officials during the recent FIL Junior National World Cup event in December. She also commended the work of the club for providing great officials for the JNT WC and making the event very successful.

New Business:

Ms. Warren discussed that the next Board meeting will be an in person meeting and that she will send a note to all Board members on possible dates for that meeting. She floated the idea of the meeting taking place in the Spring in Park City.

Executive Session

At this time Mr. Leahy left the meeting. The Board went into Executive session at 6:49pm to discuss the CEO bonus report presented by the Finance and Compensation Committee. After a discussion the Board approved the 2017-2018 bonus attainment and the bonus structure plan for the 2018-2019 season presented by the Finance and Compensation Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05PM.

