



**USA ROLLER SPORTS
MEETING MINUTES
2021 SEMIANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ZOOM WEBINAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23-24, 2021
Approved 6-8-2021**

USARS President and Board Chair Heidi Permatteo called the meeting to order in closed Executive Session at 7:00 PM on Friday, April 23, 2021 via a Zoom webinar meeting.

The following Board Members were present: Heidi Permatteo-USARS President/Chair, Stephen Carter-USARS Vice President , Kay Gallatin-Treasurer, Annelle Anderson, Joyann (Barber) Donaldson-AAC alternate, John Fearnow, Misty Greer, Tom Hughes, Allison Kiger, Gypsy Lucas, and Kelly Springer.

The following Board Members were absent: Erin Jackson, William Mihay, Fernando Regueiro, Jon Roux, and Chalie Sgrillo II.

Others present: Jerry Pigsley-USARS Attorney, Ricci Porter-Kmetz-Interim Executive Director, and Peggy Young-Recording Secretary.

Heidi welcomed everyone to the meeting. Topics of discussion included the Hall of Fame and Honors Minutes, Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy violation, the Safe Sport Minor Athlete Policy, and the potential of separating the responsibilities of Board Chair from that of President.

USARS Attorney Jerry Pigsley left the meeting at 8:36 PM. Peggy and Ricci left the meeting at 9:05 PM, so the Board could review of USARS staff. The meeting was recessed at 9:22 PM.

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The USARS Board Meeting was called back to order at 9:06 AM on Saturday, April 24, 2021.

The same board members and staff were present from the night prior, but now included Brent Benson-USARS Sports Operations Director and Megan Schuller-USARS Sports Operations Coordinator. Others connected at varying times during the meeting were Jim Jost, Nellie Anderson Lillie, Bud and Shirley Engle, Mykal Pedrazza, Cara Ross and Keith Noll (note: Jerry Pigsley did not participate on Saturday).

The 2020 Fall Annual Board Meeting Minutes were approved by email vote. Five short Special Board Meetings have since been conducted and also approved. The Annual and Special Board Meeting Minutes can be found on the USARS website under "Governance."

The USARS Board structure had been amended to include an Independent Director, as follows: One three-year term - one director shall be elected by the Board of Directors from the community and be independent from personal involvement with Roller Sports and other related Roller Sports connected involvement (manufacturing, rink ownership, etc.). The Nominating Committee shall nominate the candidates who meet the requirements shown in the USARS Bylaws, under Article V. Board of Directors, Section 6, K.

There was discussion on how to move forward with filling this position, whether we should search locally or use a nation-wide approach. Many felt that only searching locally did not provide a big enough pool of candidates.

DIRECTIVE 1: Ricci Porter-Kmetz was asked to research the steps to do a nation-wide search to fill the Independent Seat on the Board of Directors.

During the Executive Committee Meeting on February 23, there was discussion of establishing a Special Advisory Committee to help with communication between the Standing & Special Committees and the Board of Directors. Five Board members are needed to be in contact with the committees on a regular basis. Board members do not need to be on the committee calls or attend their meetings. The Executive Committee feels that this new Advisory Committee will help with the Ethics and Compliance Committee. Heidi noted that Stephen Carter has volunteered to Chair this group and asked for five others to move this forward.

DIRECTIVE 2: Stephen Carter shall serve as the Chair of the Special Advisory Committee. Others who volunteered were Tom Hughes, Allison Kiger and Joyann (Barber) Donaldson. They will set up a conference call to get started.

Heidi had been contacted by RollerFitness, a fitness trainer group based in the UK. They currently have instructors completing their certification in Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, America and the UK and are interested in affiliating with USARS. She was uncertain how best to accomplish this. Misty reported on an ex-derby player from Canada who wants to branch out with a recreational league/club program. They are interested in obtaining insurance. It was suggested we look at how NIRA is affiliated with USARS. It might also be possible to coordinate with the Star Skate program.

DIRECTIVE 3: Empower our President and Interim Executive Director to review these potential membership opportunities and determine how to create a relationship with them within our Bylaws. Consideration must also be given to Safe Sport and our background check requirements.

Heidi was asked by World Skate America if the USARS wooden floor could be used for the 2021 Rink Hockey Pan Am Championships, in Fort Pierce, Florida - September 16 – 26, 2021. John Fearnow reminded everyone of the cost of replacing our floor and taking care of it with repairs, etc. There is potential loss if it were involved in an accident while on the road to and from the event; and unless our usual floor crew installs it, there can easily be damage.

If approved, they would need to cover the cost of transporting it to and from their event, cover the costs of using the USARS floor installation crew, and obtain the addition of USARS as an additional insured on the facility's liability insurance policy. If we approve this, we should ask if Cedar Rapids store the floor after Nationals until it could be picked up to ship to Florida. This could save time, transportation costs and exposure to damage during loading and transport.

John again he is not comfortable with this risk for our floor. We should consider our future use if something catastrophic were to occur. They have played on asphalt before, and we don't know if we can get our floor crew. We lowered our insurance coverage because it is an old floor, but he estimated the replacement cost would be about \$250,000. We need to know up front if these expenses are within their budget before any decisions can be made.

DIRECTIVE 4: Approve a group to come up with terms for use of our wooden skating floor in Fort Pierce, Florida for the Pan American Rink Hockey Championships, to include John Fearnow, Danny Brown, and Ross Creveling. A two-week response time was set.

The next topic was discussion on how to fill committee vacancies and replacement of Annette Stapleton-Heywood as the American Athletic Council (AAC) Representative for Roller Skating, who has resigned. We do have an alternate, Joyann (Barber) Donaldson, but our Bylaws are not specific that the alternate automatically moves up. Do we need to hold another election, do we need to elect another alternate? It is assumed the alternate would move up, but the USOPC believes athletes are special to the Board. How do the other athletes feel about that? Joyann was asked to serve as an athlete representative at today's meeting because she is the alternate for that position. Heidi has asked the USOPC twice for guidance on how to move forward and is waiting for a response.

Heidi was seeking language to add to Bylaws to state the alternate becomes to AAC Representative should the elected representative resign or be removed. Or questioned whether the Board believe the Athlete Nominating Committee should fill that slot. Until we hear back from the USOPC, we are at a standstill. She expects a response relatively soon.

We need to also establish how to fill vacancies on Standing Sport Committees. There were several ideas advanced. The Sport Committee could appoint an existing non-voting member to fill the position until the fall meeting. Non-voting members have already submitted a resume and been screened for committee assignment. The question was raised "what is the purpose of having a non-voting member if not to gain experience before moving to a voting committee position?". Allison said it can get confusing when you have both voting and non-voting members, and John felt having them can make the committees too large and cumbersome.

It was suggested filing vacancies on Committees should go directly back to the Committee on Committees. They could review other resumes submitted and make an immediate recommendation for Board or Executive Committee approval. If none exist the opening could be advertised in an effort to involve interested individuals. Whatever process we chose to use must be stated in the Bylaws. Brent was specific in his concern about establishing a written process to replace athletes on committees to assure representation. John noted we need to be certain we include this process for all

Standing and Sport Committees. Jim Jost asked whether Sport Committees will continue to have input on who they would like on their committee, and Heidi agreed their recommendations would go to the Committee on Committees, which sends a proposed slate for approval.

MOTION 1: By Joyann (Barber) Donaldson, 2nd by Allison Kiger B/D 4/24/2021

Add verbiage from Article VII. Committees, Section 12. Resignation, Removal and Vacancies, page 36: "Any vacancy occurring in a committee shall be filled as set forth for the appointment of that committee member. A committee member appointed to fill a vacancy shall be appointed for the unexpired term of such committee member's predecessor in office.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next was a discussion of USA Team apparel (warm-ups, t-shirts, etc.). Gypsy noted the contract for the items provided by the Cricket Loft was up in 2019. John Fearnow, speaking on behalf of the Cricket Loft, confirmed that he would still have a booth at Nationals and use of the official logo. Contracts for services during the 2019-2020 season were moved to the 2020-2021 skating season, due to Covid19.

There was discussion on the services needed for the National Championships. Mykal Pedrazza is contacting Ulysses about again streaming video and still shots as he has in the past. Dennis King is available for only four days during the Speed Nationals, and this is not viable. For the Figure Nationals it was suggested we contact the folks who streamed roller figure skating in Spokane. It is really important for each sport to be visible to families and others who are not attending in person. Stephen Carter has been talking with the National Speed Circuit guys, who stream amazing live speed skating for the NSC. Brent stated there are individuals within rink hockey who are interested but want to know what we would pay. These potential suppliers are asked to put in a bid for this service, to include what they would charge.

Heidi gave a verbal President's Report. She thanked Brent Benson, Megan Schuller and Ricci Porter-Kmetz for their work in keeping the organization running. Things are looking pretty good right now. We have been able to work with Foy Insurance to change athlete accident insurance payments to monthly, rather than based on membership the prior year. The USARS bookkeeper was recently released, and we are now looking for a new bookkeeper. Heidi stated her appreciation for Kay's work with those staff responsibilities.

We are still working on our NGB renewal process with the USOPC. There have been delays on their side, not ours. With the cuts made, we are in a good position and solvent moving forward. Nationals may be better than we expected. Heidi also stated her appreciation of Stephen Carter for his help and guidance. He has been available to take her calls at any time, early or late at night. Her history is with roller figure skating, she is now comfortable with speed, and wants to know rink hockey and derby better.

Ricci Porter-Kmetz has been the Interim Executive Director since December 1, 2020. She expressed her greatest appreciation of Megan, Brent, Kay and Heidi for their help. With the reduction in staff,

Megan and Brent just keep getting the job done. The quarterly reports to the Nebraska Attorney General are completed. The final report was made March 31, with Brent again stepping in to help. A speed meet director social learning course has been prepared with the help of Megan.

Using video education, we have more Certified Meet Directors than ever before. Certification required a questions and answer session with a national official prior to completion. Work is being done to update our Minor Athlete Policy. It will go into effect in 2022 or perhaps sooner, depending how quickly we can navigate through the approval process. NGB recertification is in process with 10 of 13 tasks completed at this time. She would like to have this completed by the end of the quarter. Ricci is working with an agent to lease out part of the USARS building. It can accommodate three tenants, with USARS and the Museum being two of them.

Nellie Anderson Lillie gave a verbal report on the National Museum of Roller Skating. She noted the USARS agenda included a report on the Museum's status from Kim Wall, the current President. More information on Give to Lincoln Day will be coming out soon. Nellie loves our Museum and thanked the USARS Board for their incredible support.

Amy Richardson and Peggy Young work for the Museum. The Museum has a new exhibit on Roller Skating during World War II. It was done by an outside company and is top-notch. We plan to work with them on others. Oral interviews are being done to preserve the history of roller skating. Nellie is working with Amy on utilizing audio tours for the Museum. The annual Museum raffle will be held next week at RSA Convention in Reno. The Museum Board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 2. She has put together three-minute videos on the Museum. She further thanked USARS for letting us share them during town hall meetings to increase recognition of the Museum.

Annelle and Peggy gave a brief update on the Foundation. Normally they would meet at the site of the RSA Convention, however, due to Covid19 it was decided to meet in late May electronically. This will help limit travel for most involved as Trustees who might otherwise not be going to the Convention.

Kay wanted to put the Foundation Travel Grants on USARS' radar. We will need to better publicize their availability. There have been complaints from those who did not see past notices of their availability, and they felt the process was not fair. She suggested the notice become a permanent part of the weekly Constant Contact mailings. We might also be able to send notices directly to athletes who are eligible by age.

As Treasurer, Kay did get a signature change on the USARS World Team Travel fund account. Donations go into this account and are distributed to eligible athletes. This money is gaining interest. No World Championships took place in 2020 due to Covid19, thus no money was paid out. The minimum amount per athlete is \$50, in categories that have sufficient funds. Money not distributed stays in the fund.

A break was taken at 11:00 AM, with a return to session at 11:18 AM.

Following the advice of USARS Attorney Jerry Pigsley, the following motion was made in open session:

MOTION 2: By Kay Gallatin, 2nd by Gypsy Lucas B/D 4/24/2021

To remove recognition of Michael Jacques as President of the Southwest USARS Region due to non-compliance with the USA Roller Sports Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy. Notification shall be immediately given to that region of this decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (one abstention)

Committee Reports were next on the agenda.

Joyann (Barber) Donaldson, Figure Committee Chair, reported they have had six meetings since the last Board Meeting. The last one was close to the Board Meeting and those minutes and updates were emailed to the Board separate from the agenda. The Figure Skating Committee is working to improve our communications and image within the figure skating community and increase the value of membership. They have put together three competitions to help give value to being a member – the Axel through the Ages, Best Fail, and National Virtual Invitational – and are continuing to think of more ways to encourage skaters. In addition to their already submitted meeting minutes, a motion recap was provided, along with summary updates from each sub-committee. They are diligent in communication with all Regional Coach Representatives, working on testing for competitive judges and doing training webinars via google classroom. In addition to regular skating programs, they are working on training education for those interested in participating at the World Skate level.

The Board had already denied the following two requests from the Roller Figure Skating Meeting Minutes: (1) A request to remove negativity from educational webinars prior to publication and (2) a request to have material for future educational webinars reviewed/approved by the Figure Skating Committee.

MOTION 3: By Allison Kiger, 2nd by Annelle Anderson B/D 4/24/2021

Accept the Figure Skating Committee Minutes, with the exception of the two items noted above as already denied by the Board. See Addendum A.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee Chair Jim Jost gave the Rink Hockey Committee Report. Rink Hockey has the same issue as our other sport disciplines in regard to Covid19. As in the past, they have difficulty getting athletes to purchase their membership cards early in the season. They have been having issues with how their committee is structured and how Team USA staff is structured. Jim was seeking approval of their National Championships referees, the budget for Nationals and tests for coaching. One referee has applied to World Skate for international recognition. Ten coaches are taking the World Skate coaching seminar.

Their Rink Hockey Foundation is being updated, so at this time they have no place to deposit the \$50 per team collected with team entry for the National Championships. They wish for that fee to be waived for 2021. Concern was raised about behavior by an individual at official events, etc., with no consequences. A formal letter of complaint needs to be written and submitted. On another issue in

figure skating, it was pointed out that USARS does have an Electronic Media Communication Policy, last updated in 2015. Ricci reported she is handling compliance within the office, with help from Brent. A process must be followed with all complaints.

MOTION 4: By Tom Hughes, 2nd Annelle Anderson B/D 4/24/2021

Accept the Rink Hockey Committee Minutes excluding the list of officials for the 2021 National Championships, pending clarification. See Addendum B.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

National Championships officials for all sports can be approved at a Special Board Webinar Meeting or by the Executive Committee. All Board Members are invited to sign into Executive Committee meetings.

Misty Greer, Derby Committee Chair, acknowledged the shutdown of their sport by Covid 19. She reported on an online interactive marathon. It would start in California and go to Cedar Rapids, ending the first day of Nationals. The winner would be based on accrued miles. The first prize will be given this month to keep people active and interested.

She has reached out to past teams about in-person competition, but most are inactive due to the contact nature of their sport. At this time they are not expecting significant team participation at this year's Nationals, but they may be able to create pickup teams for individuals who wish to attend. The deadline for receipt of applications for officials is May 14. Some have already been received. Heidi stated Cedar Rapids will be providing an Athletic Trainer and asked whether this was sufficient. Stephen said they would check their rules. Misty noted it has not been decided whether or not there will be a Women's Team USA tryout in Cedar Rapids. Misty also noted that she is a temporary athlete on the Board. USARS staff has received some applications for this position.

MOTION 5: By Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Tom Hughes B/D 4/24/2021

Accept the Derby Committee Meeting Minutes. See Addendum C.

CARRIED UNNIMOUSLY

Speed Committee Chair, Kelly Springer, gave a quick update. They are trying to finalize last-minute plans for Nationals. Seeding for heats should be complete in the next month. He noted Indoor Nationals is an import source of funding. With Covid19, they have remained active with conversations to provide support to regions and athletes. Coaches who maintained contact with their skaters are now coming back with very active teams. They estimate a reduction in participation at Nationals, but it should be better than expected. They are waiting on the Officials Committee to complete their recommendations for Indoor and Outdoor National Championships.

Confirmation of the site of Outdoor Nationals is a work in process. Due to issues in Colorado Springs, they are working to obtain use of the facilities in Florida. Holding it in Texas is also possible. Kelly said their meeting minutes contained small administrative rule changes, asked for no other real action.

There was discussion about participating in the World Championships with Covid19 still active. The 2020 team staff was moved forward to be the 2021 staff. It was suggested anyone going should have someone with them to stay in their room, a minor's mom and/or dad must accompany them. Before making any firm plans for team selection, it is important to make sure everyone understands the requirements.

MOTION 6: By John Fearnow, 2nd by Tom Hughes B/D 4/24/2021

Accept the Speed Committee Minutes. See Addendum D.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Keith Noll, Inline Hockey Committee member, was on the call at 12:20 PM. The Inline Hockey Committee is moving forward with the Team USA program. They are concerned that the dates for the World Inline Hockey Championships are in conflict with the dates of ice hockey, as many of our athletes compete in both, but are working on it.

MOTION 7: By Tom Hughes, 2nd by Gypsy Lucas B/D 4/24/2021

Approve the Inline Hockey Committee Meeting Minutes. See Addendum E.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Heidi Permatteo, as Chair of the Executive Committee, reported they had met via Zoom for Special Board Meetings, one Executive Committee Meeting and one joint Executive Finance Committee Meeting. All Board Members have been invited to connect to the Executive Committee Meetings.

MOTION 8: By Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Tom Hughes B/D 4/24/2021

Approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. See Addendum F.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Kay Gallatin, USARS Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee, reported USARS financials were sent to everyone prior to the meeting, and she asked if anyone had questions. She reviewed some general and specific items everyone should be aware of. The annual audit has been completed with unmodified findings, which means it was a good clear audit. The 990 has been completed and is in the process of being filed.

A discussion is needed on how to better budget expenses for the National Championships. The hotel deposit for Nationals has been paid. She noted there are expenses covered each year that are not thought about, such as storage for our skating floors.

Under our current travel policy, airfare/mileage is paid by USARS. Travel costs can range from \$200 to \$700 per official, depending on whether they are flying or driving and the market of their home airport. She asked for input from the Board. It is difficult to get officials to work at the National Championships if airfare/travel is not covered at 100%. It was suggested that the traveler could contact the office to get permission to spend more on their ticket if it exceeded the maximum for

booking without question. National Office staff would not otherwise be involved in booking any travel this year.

It was also suggested the Meet Director could maintain the master list, which has traditionally been done by USARS staff. It has been used to confirm the participation of officials, per diem allowances and travel reimbursements upon receipt of an airline ticket (or a google search of round-trip mileage). If mileage is higher than the cost of an airline ticket, the amount a ticket would have cost is reimbursed.

Per diem will remain at \$40 per full day and \$20 for travel-only days. Kay asked Ricci to work on putting together the letters of invitation. Hotel will be reimbursed at 50% of the total room cost, however, Meet Directors are provided a room for their own individual use. As usual, reimbursements would be given at the National Championships. At this point the Board has only approved a set number of officials to attend, not a set maximum amount to reimburse for travel. No baggage fess or taxi cost will be reimbursed.

Joyann voiced concern about officials being required to share with other officials due to Covid19. Anyone who wants their own room can pay 50% for a single room, as has been the policy in the past. Officials this year can stay any place and are not limited to utilizing the host hotel. Reimbursement will only be an amount up to half of the room cost at the official hotel. It was noted this may impact the room pickup. May 1 is the cut-off date, and we can go down 20% if needed.

MOTION 9: By Joyann (Barber) Donaldson, 2nd by Allison Kiger B/D 4/24/2021

Approve the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes. See Addendum G.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DIRECTIVE 5: Each National Championships official will make their own travel arrangements. The subject will go back to the Finance Committee to reinvestigate a static amount to reimburse officials for their travel.

Curt Craton, Chair of the Compliance, Ethics and Eligibility Committee provided a written report. It stated to date in the 2020-21 skating season, four matters have been brought to the attention of the Compliance Committee. Three of the four matters were complaints. The fourth matter was merely an advisory that a complaint might be forthcoming from the Hockey Sport sometime in the future.

The Chair of the Hall of Fame and Honors Committee, Annelle Anderson, gave their report. Because of Covid 19, there were only Hall of Fame recommendations coming from the Committee.

MOTION 10: by John Fearnow, 2nd by Misty Greer B/D 4/24/2021

Approve the recommendation of the Hall of Fame and Honors Committee, as follows:

- *Gerald (Jerry) Gohs (Speed) – Athlete Hall of Fame, Veteran Category**
- *Rechelle Hanson Manning (Figure) - Athlete Hall of Fame, Veteran Category**
- *Stan Smith (Inline Hockey – Athlete Hall of Fame, Veteran Category**
- *Jim Trussell (Rink Hockey) – Athlete Hall of Fame, Veteran Category**
- *Ed Harney – Distinguished Service Hall of Fame**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Annelle would like to include the names of the 2020 award recipients and those just approved in this year's National Championships programs. She will work with Brent and Ricci to get this accomplished. Last year those receiving awards in 2020 were asked whether they wanted them mailed to them or presented in person. Brent has the plaques that were not mailed out for the 2020 recipients. We need to make personal contact to see if all these individuals will be attending the National Championships. If there is no reception, the presentations can be made during the opening ceremonies for each sport.

A new Committee on Committees is elected annually at the Spring Semiannual Board Meeting. This was handled later under Standing Business.

Heidi will contact Trace Hansen to see if he will continue as the Chair of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee consists of five members, with one past or present National Officer serving as the Chair, the AAC representative and three Regional Representatives taken from among the nine currently elected Regional Chairmen. Once we hear from the USOPC, we can confirm whether Joyann (Barber) Donaldson will serve in the capacity of AAC Representative.

USA Roller Sports has its own Athlete Advisory Council. Joyann reported there was no report from them, and nothing relating to the USOPC Athlete Advisory Council. She was out of town when the USOPC AAC last met. Their next meeting is scheduled for May.

Applications have been received, but the Elite Coaches Selection Committee had not met prior to this meeting due to an illness. Tom Hughes, the Chair, will get the Committee together asap. Approval of their recommendations can be given by the Executive Committee or during a Special Board Meeting. Heidi noted there was to have been an interview process established, but she does not believe this has happened. Jim Pringle, a member of this Committee, recently passed. He will be missed by all who knew him.

A 45-minute lunch break was taken. The meeting resumed at 1:40 PM.

Cara Ross, the new Chair of the Communications and Technology Committee, was connected to give their report. They have a variety of projects underway, such as getting more footage from past National Championships on YouTube. Joyann and Allie are working on Instagram, and the Committee now has a social media plan.

Joyann and Allison noted had other great ideas to make roller skating more visible. Cara would like to have more of our sports involved on the USARS social media platform, such as Jasmin Foster for speed skating. They are looking for someone to volunteer on behalf of derby and hockey. Jim Jost suggested Rachel Trussell should be contacted to represent Rink Hockey, and Misty suggested perhaps Christina Gerrish for Derby.

They have joined a marketing design platform and want to present a uniform look by building templates to utilize. Being able to immediately recognize the material as being USARS helps with branding. Cara touched on the widespread use of Zoom and the Education Committee's utilization. She continued with a very complete report of items they are working on, including the possibility of creating a members-only section on our website where exclusive content could be placed.

MOTION 11: By Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Tom Hughes B/D 4/24/2021

Approve the Minutes of the Communications and Technology Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gypsy Lucas reported the National Planning Committee met last week, although they had been communicating individually. They will plan a trip to Cedar Rapids in May for their Committee and invite Meet Directors to make sure they are aware of the city - since it is our first time there and everyone should be on the same page. They will review the internet access and use of Ticketmaster for sales online or on-site has already been confirmed. Our Security needs to be confirmed. There are two Jumbotrons in the main arena, which we can utilize like we did in Lincoln for 2018 for the awards podium. It was amazing. In the hockey arena we need to insure there are projectors and screens, as there are no video options in that smaller arena. We must make sure we have everything needed for each sport.

Danielle Storm has put together a jot form for those who want to volunteer. The venue is providing Athletic Trainers. The venue is three stories high. The first floor is the main foyer where tickets are sold. We could put vendors there, however, there would be no access to the venue. Higher prices could be charged for locations close to the skating areas. They are considering a discounted rate this year due to Covid19. Gypsy is again doing a vendor package. The vendor pricing structure could be the same as it was in Spokane - 15 % off if paid in full by the June 1 deadline, then raised to the regular price if you miss the early bird deadline. She plans to have the information sent out to vendors in the next week, giving them one month to get this booth space.

Gypsy continued stating live streaming is a challenge. She said we need good Wi-Fi with four devices to connect. The floor installation schedule and installation team will be handled by Danny Brown. It is really important with only two full-time staff members and a parttime ED, each sport must help man the registration desk for their sport. Some volunteers may need to arrive early and some may need to be present following the end for tear-down. It would not be fair to put the entire 23 days of the event on the shoulders of Brent and Megan. Heidi confirmed that Gloria Manning will not be attending this

year, and she does not know about Annelle's participation. These two wonderful women have supplemented registration desk coverage for many years.

John noted the new floor is light blue, not white. He has been to Cedar Rapids four times. Rink hockey players will love the venue. Eric Hudson is our contact at the venue. They are putting cement in where the hockey floor will go and using a laser level. Our new floor can be installed right over the cement. He is currently working with the food vendor for the arena to come up with a good menu for our skaters. He restated Ticketmaster will take care of ticket sales. After Midnight, there is a \$100 cost for staff to stay all night if need for practice sessions. John has been working with Danny hand-in-hand. He shared a few more logistical details of setup.

Gypsy noted that Mykal Pedrazza is now the Chair of the Star Skate and Education Committee. There was mention of renewed efforts for merchandising. Skating skills for beginner hockey needs to be added to the website. She said they need a speed and hockey skills description that could help gym teachers who want to teach hockey. This website has the option to include 5 to 10-second snippet videos demonstrating each skill. Cara has been working with them to make the site more user-friendly and professional in appearance. There was discussion on getting schools and colleges to sponsor skating programs and more updating the Star Skate website to help physical education teachers move a program forward. Sonic managers have also used it for teaching their employees to skate.

Keith Noll, Insurance and Risk Management Advisor, provided an informational written report. As noted earlier, we are now paying for athlete liability insurance monthly based on actual memberships rather than the prior year's membership. There was also an update on lawsuits and upcoming policy renewals.

Heidi and John were on a World Skate call with its President, Sabatino Aracu. World Skate has two new member federations, one of which is Africa. They are continuing their efforts to unite everyone and increase skaters worldwide.

Dates for the 2021 Fall Annual Board Meeting were discussed. They will meet one more time via Zoom before we returning to face-to-face meetings, as a cost-saving measure. With the short meetings held between the Annual and the Semiannual Meetings, the time needed is less and it gives the Board an opportunity to check in with Committees to see how they are doing. Days were discussed and Misty said Sunday is not good for her.

It was decided to use October 22, for the closed session and schedule meetings on October 23-24. This is a bye weekend for Nebraska football, so Board members who wants to be present in person can travel to Lincoln at their own expense. We will plan to meet face-to-face for the Spring Semiannual 2022 meeting. A short Special Board Meeting may be scheduled for Saturday, August 22, subject to finalizing the dates of the Outdoor Speed Skating National Championships.

We will contact Speedway Village in Lincoln, Nebraska, relative to contracts for the 2022 and 2023 National Championships. John Fearnow indicated Reno is interested in submitting a new bid.

The World Games will be held in July of 2022, in Birmingham, Alabama. Gypsy would like to promote it to our members to attend. There will be four members of USARS competing in speed, along with roller figure athletes and an inline hockey team. Kelly Spoke of some conversations he has had with organizers for the Games.

Contracts completed since the last board meeting included a new copier rental agreement with a different company. We are looking at changing our phone system from analog to digital, using the current provider company. These changes save money for USARS.

The Board of Directors is responsible for approving the Committee on Committees, which shall be comprised of the President of USARS as the Chairperson, either the AAC Rep or AAC Alternate, one additional elected athlete to the Board of Directors and two other current Board of Director members. This is done during the Spring Semiannual Board of Directors Meetings. They are charged with working with all committees in advance of their meeting to receive feedback from the committees where vacancies exist. The final slate of recommendations shall be provided to the Board of Directors at the Fall Annual Board Meeting.

The following will serve on the Committee on Committees: Heidi Permatteo-USARS President/Committee Chair, Joyann (Barber) Donaldson-AAC Rep, Tom Hughes, Annelle Anderson and Misty Greer-athlete.

The Board will need to have a special meeting to ratify officials for our 2021 National Championships - May 10 at 8 PM central was discussed

DIRECTIVE 6: Sport Committees must submit their National Championship officials list to the National Office by May 7, so they can be sent to the Board to review prior to its meeting on May 10.

MOTION 12: Kelly Springer, 2nd by John Fearnow B/D 4/24/2021

To go into closed Executive Session.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting went into closed session at 3:30 PM.

Topics discussed in closed session included participation in World and Pan Am Championships, a preliminary notice of a Code of Conduct and Ethics violation, financial items including pricing, and performance bonds.

MOTION 13: By John Fearnow, 2nd by Kay Gallatin B/D 4/24/2021

To adjourn the 2021 USARS Spring Semiannual Board of Directors Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting was adjourned in closed session at 4:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Young
Recording Secretary



ADDENDA
USA ROLLER SPORTS
2021 SEMIANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MOTION WEBINAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23-24, 2021

Figure Committee Meeting Minutes.....Addendum A
Rink Hockey Committee Meeting Minutes..... Addendum B
Derby Committee Meeting Minutes.....Addendum C
Speed Committee Minutes.....Addendum D
Inline Hockey Committee Minutes..... Addendum E
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.....Addendum F
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes..... Addendum G