

**Rink Hockey Conference Call**  
**Wednesday March 24, 2021**

**Attendance:**

**Committee Members:** Jim Jost (Chairman, 2021 Team USA Men's Manager – Non-Voting), Bryce Robinson (Regional Rep. - Voting), Duane McMinn (Treasurer and Referee Committee - Voting), Pat Ferguson (Committee Member, 2021 Team USA Men's Coach - Voting), Scott Ferguson (Athlete Representative, 2021 Team USA U19 Coach - Voting), Tom Hughes (At-Large Board of Directors – Voting), Jim Trussell (Committee Member – Voting), Rachel Trussell (Female Representative - Voting), ( and Rodrigo Calvo-Leni (Secretary, Athletic Representative - Voting).

**Non-Committee Members:** Carlos Pulido (United Florida Hockey Club and 2021 Pan American Championship), Brent Benson (USARS Staff Advisor – Non-Voting), and William Mihay (Rink Hockey Athlete Representative to the Board of Directors – Non-Voting).

**Timekeeper:** **Scott**

**1. 2021 Pan American Championship: Carlos Pulido**

- a. Letter of intent due through Brent B. to WSA of June 30<sup>th</sup>, regarding how many teams will participate.
  - i. Late fees will be added after June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- b. City will dictate the COVID-19 regulations.
  - i. There are currently no restrictions in the city, and no expectation for any future restrictions.
  - ii. WSA cannot override city regulations.
- c. Floor will be available for Team USA practice a few days prior to tournament.
  - i. Rapid COVID-19 tests will be made available.
- d. Each delegation or team will be responsible for their own transportation.
  - i. United Florida Hockey Club is trying to collect some funds to support Team USA.
  - ii. USARS may be moving towards required entire team participation fee prior to tournament, rather than a deposit.
    1. Will received confirmation once Finance Committee minutes are approved.
- e. Requesting costs of using USARS wood floor in case it is needed for the tournament.
- f. Coaches seminar:
  - i. All three team USA coaches have registered for the seminar.

**2. Report on World Skate Referees Seminar: Jim J. & Brent B.**

- a. Carlos Pulido got World Skate Academy to extend the seminar one week.
- b. Notices sent out to 8 potential referees.
  - i. Nic Robinson was able to attend.
    1. Nic and Duane are the only referees in the U.S. that qualify for the 2021 Pan American Championship, however, Nic will be coaching.

**3. Verbal report on checking account balance: Duane**

- a. No updates.

**4. Referee Committee Report: Duane**

- a. Duane is working on rule clarifications to share with U.S. referees.
  - i. Discussion regarding different translations of the rules.
- b. National Championship Referee Application: Brent
  - i. ~7 referee applications have been submitted for the tournament.
  - ii. Will need committee decisions by next call, to obtain USARS Board Approval.

**5. Club Committee Report: Scott & Rodrigo**

- a. Survey progress.

- i. Discussed summary of responses.
      - 1. Will send responses to committee members.
  - b. Re-boot of the call.
    - i. Scott and Rodrigo will discuss how to re-boot the call this week.
  - c. Suggestion for sub-committee
    - i. Have an agenda.
    - ii. Keep minutes.
    - iii. Publish minutes in committee minutes.
- 6. Coach's Report: Jim T.**
  - a. Lever tests progress.
    - i. Tests are finished and have been sent to committee.
      - 1. Jim would like Duane to take a last look to confirm rules are correct.
    - ii. Documents include coaching requirements.
- 7. USARS Office Updates: Brent B.**
  - a. Board dismissed Rod from finance.
- 8. Score Keeping System Report: Bryce**
  - a. National Championship Score Keeper Application: Brent B.
    - i. Applications are being submitted.
      - 1. Will need committee decisions by next call, to obtain USARS Board Approval.
    - ii. Can minors apply as scorekeepers?
      - 1. Yes, no issue regarding background checks.
  - b. Score Keeper System.
    - i. Message Bryce or Nic R. with any questions regarding score keeping system.
  - c. All score keepers must have a USARS card, Safe Sport, and background check.
    - i. Minors are not required to have a background check.
- 9. Shot clocks**
  - a. Will cost around \$1,200.
    - i. Bluetooth with controllers in official stand.
    - ii. One behind each goal.
  - b. Will need committee decisions by next call, to obtain USARS Board Approval.
  - c. Could we put a plexiglass type protector in front of the clocks?
    - i. Yes. Will depend on the clock stand and how to set the protector.
  - d. Duane has found one to use for the May non-sanctioned tournament.
- 10. COVID-19 requirements for attending 2021 National Championships: Brent B.**
  - a. National planning committee has not met yet.
    - i. Meeting will be within the next two weeks and will discuss COVID-19 restrictions and/or requirements.
    - ii. Iowa currently does not have COVID-19 restrictions.
  - b. There is a question as to whether the state COVID mandates or the USOPC mandates take precedence.
- 11. Live stream for 2021 National Championship: Brent B.**
  - a. Live stream RFP will be posted soon but will likely not be decided by the Spring Board Meeting.
    - i. One option will be about streaming the entire event, or by discipline.
  - b. Who will pay for the service and who will have access?
    - i. Will depend on the RFP.
- 12. Old Business:**
  - a. \$50 per team reimbursement to rink hockey from 2021 National Championship – How will it be dispersed? Brent B.
    - i. Finance committee was to meet March 9<sup>th</sup>.

- ii. Finance committee decided to cancel the \$50 club fee, and no longer wants fees running through USARS.
  - 1. Can committee take fees from clubs directly?
    - a. Will need to research our 501c and how to receive payment.
    - b. Tabled until April Meeting.
- b. Update on dasher boards for the 2021 National Championships (suction cups vs Velcro): **Tom/Brent B.**
  - i. Company that made the walls no longer makes suction cups.
  - ii. USARS does not want Velcro on the new floor, therefore Danny Brown said he can provide as many water barrels that we need.
- c. Rink hockey team development/training site: **Jim J., and Rachel.**
  - i. Rachel will be making more interactive posts.
    - 1. Will post player highlights.
      - a. Rachel has sent questionnaire to ~30 past and current players for future posts.
    - 2. Training posts.
      - a. Rachel asked community what type of training videos they would like to see and will begin filming them soon.
  - ii. Team development program:
    - 1. Have not been able to set dates yet due to pandemic.
    - 2. Jim T. and Alan Kiram hosted a training camp in Florida as substitutes for the Spanish coaches who were not able to attend.

### **13. New Business:**

- a. Discussion on Team USA Coaches being players.
  - i. Will allow for members to think of the issue through the next month and will be decided through a motion at April meeting.
- b. Discussion of the selection process for 2021 Team USA – ranking players.
  - i. Jim J. suggests having a ranking system with a minimum of four rankers, like the ranking system that used to be used.
  - ii. Jim T. suggests some sort of minimum number of rankers, including but not limited to committee members.
  - iii. 2017 rule book says national team selection committee will consist of the coach, two rink committee members, one (current or former) national team player to select the national team.
    - 1. Should add the manager.
    - 2. How will we decide who the athlete should be?
      - a. Does not have to be the same sex. Could have female players help in ranking the men.
  - iv. Will need a motion to be submitted and approved during the April meeting.
- c. Comment letters received by committee.
  - i. Jim J. has compiled several responses that can be sent out to the letters.
  - ii. Letters have been sent to committee members, Brent B., and some to committee members.
    - 1. Letters were received within a day of committee call.
    - 2. Members will take the next few days to review the letters and will meet on Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.
    - 3. Executive committee would like the Rink Hockey Committee to take the lead in responses and will then follow.

### **14. Next Meeting:**

- a. **April 14<sup>th</sup>. (Must meet this date to approve items for Spring USARS Board Meeting).**

**15. Motion 1:** To adjourn the meeting by Tom

a. Seconded by Duane

**Approved by:** 6 approved, 4 no response.