

Minutes
2022 USA Roller Sports
Annual Board of Directors Zoom Meeting
April 29 - May 1, 2022

USA Roller Sports President Heidi Permatteo called the meeting to order in closed Executive Session at 7:37pm CT on Friday, April 29, 2022, via Zoom.

The following USA Roller Sports Board members were present: Heidi Permatteo - USARS President, Stephen Carter - USARS Vice-President, Patricia Leazier, Gypsy Lucas, Allison Kiger, Annelle Anderson, Joyann Davidson, Kevin Houseknecht, Kelly Springer, Ed Harney. Tom Hughes, Erin Jackson, Fernando Regueiro, Jon Roux, and Charlie Sgrillo II were absent. Porter-Kmetz - Interim Executive Director, was also present.

Heidi welcomed the Board members to the meeting. Topics of discussion were: USOPC Audit findings, review of Hall of Fame and Honors Committee minutes, World Skate and USA Roller Sports, and Ethics, Eligibility, and Compliance Committee. Meeting adjourned at 9:18pm CT

USA Roller Sports Annual Spring meeting started on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 9:18am CT. The following Board members were present: Heidi Permatteo - USARS President, Stephen Carter - USARS Vice President, Annelle Anderson, Joyann Davidson, Allison Kiger, Ed Harney, Kelly Springer, Patricia Leazier, and Gypsy Lucas. Kevin Houseknecht, Tom Hughes, Erin Jackson, Fernando Regueiro, Jon Roux, and Charlie Sgrillo II were absent.

Guests that were at the meeting throughout the days were: Jim White, Mary Allmond, Jeff Foster, Nellie Lillie, Misty Greer, and Janet Pavilonis.

Heidi greeted Board members and guests. All were informed the meeting would be recorded. Due to scheduling issues, Heidi stated that the call would start with agenda items D-1 and F-14. Following those 2 agenda items, the Board meeting would go back to C-1.

MOTION 1: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Joyann Davidson BD 4/30/22

Approve the 2021 Fall Board meeting minutes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Heidi asked if there were a new potential conflicts of interest since the last Board meeting. None were declared.

Ricci gave a brief update on USOPC's Audit findings and the updates made by USARS:

Code of Conduct and Disclosure Form:

Conflict of Interest Form

Gifts and Entertainment Policy

Code of Ethics

Membership Statement of Ethics

Whistleblower and Anti-Retaliation Policy

Financial Policies and Procedures

Website Information

Board Composition

Anti-doping Language in Bylaws

Athlete Safety Guidelines

Athlete Rep Requirements

Grievance Procedures

Bylaws

Motion 2: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Ed Harney BD 4/30/22

Accept the changes to the Code of Conduct and Disclosure Form, Conflict of Interest Form, Gifts and Entertainment Policy, Code of Ethics, Membership Statement of Ethics, Whistleblower and Anti-Retaliation Policy, Financial Policies and Procedures, Website Information, Board Composition, Anti-Doping Language in Bylaws, Athlete Safety Guidelines, Athlete Rep Requirements, Grievance Procedures, and Bylaws to be compliant with the USOPC 2022 standards.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion was open for discussion. Gypsy asked a question regarding the Athlete Rep language. Ricci explained, that upon ratification of the Bylaws, USARS will apply for an exception. If USARS is granted an exception, Ricci will work with Joyann - AAC Athlete Rep, the office, and committees for the correct wording that would apply to USA Roller Sports. Discussion closed.

Next agenda item was F-14. The Board had previously reviewed the minutes from the Nominating Committee. AAC Rep Joyann explained the process on reviewing nominee for the Treasurer's position.

Motion 3: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Allison Kiger BD 4/30/22

To accept the Nominations' selection for the Treasurer's position - Denise McCoy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

No discussion followed.

Heidi will notify Denise McCoy she had been voted in as USA Roller Sports Treasurer to fulfill the remaining months of the position's term.

The meeting went back to the order in the agenda with Unfinished Business. Heidi explained that C-1 & C-3 items within Unfinished Business were not completed due to being unable to connect with special committee members. Heidi ask that these committees be repopulated to complete the work.

C-1 Sport Committee guidelines special committee members are: Heidi Permatteo, Ed Harney, Allison Kiger, and Patricia Leazier.

C-2 Discussion of skaters participating in non-USARS events. This item was moved to be included with the D-2 Review General Rules special committee recommendations.

C-3 Additional criteria for selection of ED - newly populated committee consists of Heidi Permatteo, Ed Harney, Trace Hansen, and Kelly Springer.

Heidi asked that C-1 & C-2 special committee meet within the next 2 weeks so the Board can vote on the recommendations.

Next the Board reviewed USA Roller Sports General Rules and the recommendations made by the special committee created at the Fall Board meeting. Fifty three recommended edits and revisions were discussed. Approved changes agreed upon during the meeting will be entered into a working document for the Board to review one more time. The vote for the 2022 General Rules changes via email following the Board meeting.

Lunch break 11:41 am - 12:15pm.

The meeting continued with D-3 Subcommittee guidelines. USA Roller Sports does not have a document for guidance on how subcommittees should run under USARS' Standing Committees. A special committee was created to create a draft of subcommittee guidelines.

The next item of discussion was D-4 Team USA Trials and membership. Derby members are aware that they need to have their membership as of Sept 1. There were 2 tryouts across the country. Single event cards were allowed for one tryout only. Those skaters that skated a second tryout, upgraded to a full membership.

Skaters were made aware that SafeSport training was a requirement prior to tryouts.

Discussion moved forward to D-5 Elite Coaches Committee. No resumes were received to fill the Elite Coaches Committee last fall. Coaches have sent their applications in for review, but there are not enough committee members to accurately vote on the applicants. Heidi will ask all Sport Committees to submit an Elite coach from their discipline to be appointed to this committee until the Fall Board meeting.

The agenda item D-6 is moved to be included in F-2 (the Roller Derby Sport Committee reports)

Search for Executive Director D-7. Heidi brought this item up to the Board to see if the feelings were still the same as stated at the Fall Board meeting. Gypsy stated a lot of work is being done by Ricci. USARS should stay with what we have and the process we are using now. Then we can move forward after the Recertification is done. Kelly Springer stated he feels that Ricci and Heidi have a good working relationship with the USOPC and we should not change it.

It was a consensus that USA Roller Sports does not want to move to looking for a new Executive Director until the recertification process is finalized with the USOPC.

Next was the President's report. Heidi thanked Stephen Carter for being her sounding board to help navigate issues that arise in the governance of USARS. Heidi also thanked Ricci for all that she does for USA Roller Sports. Ricci is a joy to work with and works well with everyone. Ricci is the driving force behind putting USA Roller Sports in good standing with Safe Sports as well as the USOPC. Brent Benson is doing an amazing job taking on more responsibilities in the office. USARS hired Stacey Randall full time as the bookkeeper and compliance. She is happy to announce USARS membership continues to grow and has surpassed last year's membership count. She has been in contact with all of the Sport Committees and is checking in to make sure they are working on growth and excellence in the sports. Heidi is looking forward to being back in Lincoln, NE for this year's National Championships.

USA Roller Sports Office Report - Ricci Porter-Kmetz gave the national office report. She stated that things are progressing well inside the USA Roller Sports office. There is a complete re-work of in-office policies and procedure in progress. She feels good about the progress her and Heidi have made in compliance, and she looks forward to continuing their work together. She thanked Heidi for the countless hours she has put into the organization. Planning for the multi-roller sport national championships is going well. Ricci stated that Brent Benson (Sport Operations) has stepped into oversight of culture roll, figure, and speed (in addition to his previous sports of roller derby and hockey). USA Roller Sports recently hired Stacey Randall full time for compliance and bookkeeping. Ricci thanked the office staff, the Board and the Committees for all of their work.

No report from the US Foundation. The Foundation will be hosting their annual meeting this July during the Figure portion of the USA Roller Sports National Championship. Ed Harney asked about the current relationship between USARS and the Foundation. Heidi reported that it was a good working relationship. She keeps the chairperson informed with everything going on with USA Roller Sports.

The National Roller Skating Museum reports will be done later in the meeting due to their representative not being on the call.

No report on the Athlete Travel Endowment Fund. Will be done at the next Board meeting by the new Treasurer.

Sport Committee reports were next.

Gypsy Lucas gave a brief update on the Speed Committee F-1 report. She reported a good working relationship between the Speed Committee and the Coaches Reps subcommittee. Chris Springer is the chair for the Coaches Reps. They are streamlining their systems and evoking positive change.

The Speed Committee is reviewing Team USA selection procedures. Reps sent in their proposals on the procedures too. They are waiting for contracts for the trials themselves. A second location is being looked at for a backup plan in FL.

Gypsy reported 100 skaters at the Clinic held March at Brian Piccolo Park in FL. They had Level 1, Level 2, and National team skaters. The officials camp was small. They are looking how to increase the official's camp for next year. There are opportunities to work more with the Park in the future.

The Speed committee is concerned about the lack for communication with World Skate as well as the World Games. The committee is trying to encourage members who are experiencing problems not to take their problems online. Concerns about negativity on social media.

The meeting went back to the E-3 National Museum report. Vice President for the National Museum, Nellie Lillie, thanked everyone for giving their time. She thanked USA Roller Sports for housing the museum. The museum has new hours that now include Saturday hours.

Current fundraising projects are: the RSA raffle at their convention as well as Give to Lincoln Days. The staff and volunteers are working on the Oral History project. Caroline Mirelli was the first person interviewed.

The staff has been successful in securing numerous grants for the museum. One grant is for billboards to advertise the museum that will be placed around Lincoln during the National Championship.

*** The number of Board members dropped below quorum. The remaining board members made the decision to continue on with discussion only. The meeting would resume on Sunday morning and remaining agenda items to be voted on then as well.

Misty Greer, chairperson for the Derby Sport Committee, gave an update for the Derby Committee F-2. Misty reported membership is up a little since WFTDA is not competing at this time. Some leagues are waiting until Sept. 1st before joining.

Team USA trials had 59 men and 90 women try out between the two tryouts located in Waco, TX and Arizona. One practice is being planned before the World Roller Games. Dates are unknown at this time for both events.

Derby is waiting to hear back from the Finance Committee on their budget for their National Championship. Last year there were 5 teams at Nationals. The committee is looking into pricing for this event.

Roller Con is happening this year. The committee is looking how to handle registration for this event. One possible solution is the use of a QR code.

The Derby committee is excited to announce their Junior Derby subcommittee. The subcommittee held a successful clinic in early spring. The subcommittee has proposed a Junior Derby Nationals Championship. Time frame for the proposed Junior Derby National Championship is August. The Derby committee is in full support.

WFTDA and the Derby Committee are looking for a reciprocity agreement between the two organizations. Heidi stated that any agreement would need to be sent to our legal council as well as our insurance carrier to make sure that USA Roller Sports is legally covered properly.

It was noted at this time that the vote for the Hall of Fame and Honors Committee's report was not in the agenda. Heidi added to Sunday's agenda.

Joyann Davidson, as chair of the Figure Sport Committee, gave an update on F-3. The Figure Sport Committee continues to have a good relationship with the Coaches Reps subcommittee as well as their members. The FSC did a webinar to help the members with the new rule set for the year. A suggestion to help the membership is for Sport80 to have tutorials on how to access the platform and get information needed for clubs and members.

The FSC hosted the National Virtual Invitational (NVI) again this year. Expenses were minimal (awards only) and a profit was made. Officials volunteered their time to help make this event successful.

The US is sending 8 skaters to Paraguay for the World Cup series. Four skaters will be representing the US in the World Games in Alabama in July. The FSC is looking for information for the 2023 Pan Am Games.

The FSC would like all regions to be using the Rollart scoring system by 2023. Regions will be able to use Rollart Light which only requires one computer.

Ricci reported there is a report for F-8 Compliance, Ethics, and Eligibility Committee. The report will not be discussed at this time because it contains elements with a case that Safe Sport has taken exclusive jurisdiction.

Motion 4: by Stephen Carter, 2nd by Patricia Leazier BD 4/30/22

To adjourn at 2:26 p.m. Central Time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Saturday's Spring Board meeting session ended at 2:26pm CT.

The Sunday session of the Spring Annual Board meeting May 1, 2022 started at 9:04am CT. The following Board members were present: Heidi Permatteo - USARS President, Stephen Carter - USARS Vice President, Patricia Leazier, Ed Harney, Annelle Anderson, Kelly Springer, Kevin Houseknecht, Gypsy Lucas, Joyann Davidson, Allison Kiger, and Jon Roux. Tom Hughes, Erin Jackson, Fernando Regueiro, and Charlie Sgrillo II were absent.

The meeting started off with Jon Roux with a report on F-5 Inline Hockey. The Inline Hockey Committee has picked a World Team for the World Roller Games. They are in the process of selection of the team staff.

World Skate America would like a tournament here in the US. They are working on a calendar for the next 3 years.

Motion 5: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Jon Roux BD 5/1/22

To accept all sport committee minutes that have been discussed so far.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion went to section G in the agenda. The first item G-1, dates for the Fall Annual Board meeting. Stephen suggested a hybrid board meeting as done in 2020. Board members would pay their own expenses for travel and USA Roller Sports would cover lodging.

Dates for the Fall Annual Board meeting is December 2-4, 2022.

With the Fall Board meeting being in December, Joyann brought up concerns that the skating season is already 4 months into the season when the Board will be voting on new sport committee members. She said it would be ideal to vote on these committees prior to the start of the season.

It is recommended that the Board have a call in August to vote on populating the sport committees. All procedures will still be followed. Resumes will be sent to Committee on Committees to be vetted. Recommendations will be sent in a report for the Board to vote on.

Motion 6: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Ed Harney BD 5/1/22

To populate the sport committees in August to be inline with the start of the new season.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board will have a call in August to vote on populating the sport committees. All procedures will still be followed. Resumes will be sent to Committee on Committees to be vetted. Recommendations will be sent in a report for the Board to vote on.

Next the Board discussed G-2 National Championship updates. Ricci and staff will be meeting with Speedway Village to go over additional items that need to be done heading into the National Championship. Ricci thanked figure volunteers for showing a great interest in helping out with the front desk. Mykal does a great job every year organizing the figure volunteers. Ricci also suggested giving the board bi-weekly updates on the planning of the National Championship.

There are 3 interested sites for the 2024 National Championship. Ricci, Brent, and Heidi have been attending Zoom meetings to hear bids from: Reno, NV, Alabama, and Ocala, FL. Ed asked if there will be site meetings. If so, the group needs to understand the sports and how the venues need to be able to accommodate officials' area, waiting areas...etc.

Committee on Committee selection was next G-3. Heidi alerted those who will be selected for this committee that it will be meeting 3 times this year instead of one time as in years past.

The Committee on Committee members for this year are: Heidi Permatteo (President), Joyann Davidson (AAC Rep), Allison Kiger, Annelle Anderson, and Stephen Carter (Vice President).

Contracts were next on the agenda G-4. USA Roller Sports signed contracts for The Graduate to be the host hotel for the 2022 National Championships in Lincoln, NE. Heidi informed the Board of the rental of the Vesmaco floor to Alabama for the World Games. The floor is owned by the Foundation. This was informational only for the Board.

G-5 Ethics and Conflict of Interest forms. All member of committees and subcommittees to include region and leagues, must sign USARS's update forms. Joyann asked if the office could communicate with committee chairs on who has submitted their forms from the committees. Ricci confirmed that the office will include the committee chairs in their update communications in reference to all required forms.

Motion 7: by Joyann Donaldson, 2nd by Ed Harney BD 5/1/22

To go into closed session to discuss Team Trials

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 8: by Allison Kiger, 2nd by Ed Harney BD 5/1/22

To go into open session.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion went back to D-6 Junior Derby Nationals. Stephen contacted Derby chair, Misty Greer, to join the call. Misty reiterated the Derby Committee supports having a Junior Derby Nationals. The location needs to be discussed and proposals need to be submitted for approval.

Motion 9: by Patricia Leazier, 2nd by Stephen Carter BD 5/1/22

To approve a Junior Roller Derby National Championship.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The last item for discussion was the Hall of Fame and Honors Committee report. Joyann declared a conflict as she had nominated a candidate. Patrica inquired if she needed to declare a conflict as she is friends with a candidate. Declaration was noted. Decision was it was okay for Patrica to vote.

Motion 10: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Patricia Leazier BD 5/1/22

To go into closed session to discuss Hall of Fame and Honors nominees.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 11: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Ed Harney BD 5/1/22

To go into open session.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 12: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Joyann Donaldson BD 5/1/22

To approve the following awards:

- Hall of Fame
- Distinguished Service Hall of Fame
- Bill Spooner Meritorious Service Award
- Charles Wahlig Lifetime Award
- MM Shattuck Distinguished Service Award
- Inline Hockey Skater of the Year
- Rink Hockey Skater of the Year

- Speed Skater of the Year

Motion 13: by Gypsy Lucas, 2nd by Patricia Leazier BD 5/1/22

To adjourn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting end at 10:33am CT