



USATT Board Teleconference Minutes December 7, 2020

Board Chair **Richard Char** called the Board Teleconference to order at **6:03 pm** US Mountain time.

Board Members in attendance: **Kelly Watson, Niraj Oak, Tara Profitt, Sergio Garcia,** and **Board Chair Char**

USATT Outside Counsel: **Brian Moran, Esq.** and **Stephen Hess, Esq.**

USATT Staff Present: **Virginia Sung** (CEO), **Mark Thompson** (COO, General Secretary); **Chad Knasinski** (Director of Marketing and Communications); **Sean O'Neill** (High Performance Director); and **Doru Gheorghe** (High Performance Assistant Director).

Other Persons Attending: **Willy Leparulo** (NCTTA), **Brandon Lawrence** (NCTTA), **Thomas Hu, Larry Hodges, Lee Kondo,** and **Kagin Lee.**

Board Chair Call for Conflicts

None noted.

Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting of November 9, 2020

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following unanimous Resolution was approved:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on November 9, 2020 are approved and formally entered into the record.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

USATT Chief Executive Officer Virginia Sung generally reported on the impact of the apparently accelerating infection rates of COVID-19 throughout America on sport and sport-related organizations. Ms. Sung noted that table tennis has been impacted by the pandemic, stating that several participants at a recent USATT sanctioned event have reportedly tested positive for COVID-19, despite the best efforts of the host USATT Member Club to employ and enforce all proper health protocols designed to protect participants. USATT today announced that, in light of the current circumstances in the pandemic, the organization has decided to suspend all sanctioned tournaments and approved events at least until January 15, 2021, when the organization will reassess the circumstances.

Ms. Sung stated that she has submitted the 2021 Budget for the Board's approval. Ms. Sung discussed the basic parameters of the budget, noting that the budget projections are based on the assumption that activities return somewhat close to normal in the second quarter of 2021. The annual budget proposes a basic break-even position on net profit.



Ms. Sung also reported on a new program designed to support elite athletes known as the Performance Pathway, which would serve to grant up to \$4000 per year to four male and four female athletes in both the able-bodied and para programs to be utilized to offset training and tournament costs.

Audit Committee Report

Board Member Kelly Watson reported that the Audit Committee had reviewed the 2021 budget submitted by USATT Management and determined that the budget is reasonable and fair. Because of the inherent uncertainties in the country's economy, Ms. Watson stated that the Audit Committee would keep the Board apprised of budget projections and performance as 2021 progresses.

Ms. Watson noted that, in order to satisfy the requirements of good governance, the Audit Committee is undertaking to publish a Request for Proposal for accounting firms interested in bidding on the organization's annual audit and 1099 preparation processes. Ms. Watson noted that the Audit Committee will keep the Board apprised of the bid process as it moves forward.

2021 Budget

Board Chair Char opened the floor for discussion on the proposed 2021 Annual Budget.

After discussion, upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following Resolution was unanimously approved:

RESOLVED: That the proposed Budget for the Annual Year 2021 is approved.

Licensing and Sponsorship – Protecting Against Intellectual Property Infringement

Board Chair Char discussed the issue of monitoring and protecting the USATT trademark from possible infringement, as well as the potential to monetize the value of the trademark with licensing fees from vendors and manufacturers in the table tennis industry. CEO Sung noted many other the National Governing Bodies of sports are dealing with this same issue. Board Chair Char stated he will undertake to organize a task force amongst the Board Members to study this issue and make recommendations.

Board Elections Status Report

Board Chair Char stated the on-going Board of Directors elections are proceeding in a timely fashion. Voting will close on schedule on December 13, 2020, and it is expected that the election will be certified on December 23.



Board Meeting Schedule for 2021

Board Chair Char stated that the USATT Board's next meeting will be held on February 1, 2021, and that the board will meet semi-monthly thereafter, while allowing for alternative methods to resolve issues that may arise and need immediate attention.

Implementation of Illegal Service Rule

USATT Member Lee Kondo noted the recent memo regarding the proper service rules recently approved by USATT's Umpire and Referee Committee. At Mr. Kondo's request for guidance, the Board suggested Mr. Kondo contact the Chair of the Umpire and Referee Committee to request permission to assist the committee regarding the service rules.

Executive Session

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the Board excused the General Membership and moved into Executive Session where it discussed various matters, including confidential legal matters.

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following unanimous Resolution approved:

RESOLUTION: That the Board concludes the Executive Session and move back into the Board's General Session.

Adjournment

Upon return to the Board Teleconference General Session, it was properly moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Board meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm US Mountain time.

Respectfully submitted.

Mark Thompson
USATT General Secretary

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