



USATT Board Minutes

July 7, 2022

A meeting of the Board was held on July 7, 2022 at the Fort Worth Convention Center, the venue for the 2022 USATT Nationals held on July 2-7, 2022. Board Chair Richard Char called the meeting to order at 9:00 am Central time.

Board Members in attendance in person: Tara Profitt, Dan Reynolds, Kelly Watson, Thomas Hu, Lily Zhang, Arjun Chowdri, Nikhil Kumar and Board Chair Char. Board Members in attendance by zoom: Niraj Oak, Brandon Lawrence and Will Shortz. Board Member absent: Tahl Leibovitz.

USOPC: David Patterson

USATT Staff: Virginia Sung (CEO).

US Table Tennis Association, Inc. Foundation: Dell Sweeris, Pam Fontaine.

Committee Members: Bill Draper (Chair - Technology Committee), Mike Babuin (Chair - Tournaments Advisory Committee, and US Nationals Tournament Director),

USATT Photographer Emeritus: Mal Anderson

Congratulations

The Board opened the meeting by congratulating Board members Lily Zhang, Nikhil Kumar, and Tara Profitt and Foundation Board member Pam Fontaine for their gold medal performances at the 2022 Nationals.

Preliminary Remarks by USATT Photographer Emeritus:

Mal Anderson described his work for USATT over many decades and asked the Board and Staff to preserve the photographic negatives he had gifted to the USATT. The Board thanked Mr. Anderson for his valuable contributions. Mr. Anderson then left the meeting.

Board Chair Call for Conflicts

Board Chair Char called for actual, anticipated or perceived conflicts, and none were noted.

Approval of Minutes of April 4, 2022

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

RESOLVED: That the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on April 4, 2022 are approved and formally entered into the record.



Report on 2022 US Nationals (Mike Babuin)

The Tournament Director for the 2022 US Nationals, Mike Babuin, reported on the Nationals.: 5388 matches, 758 players, all issues addressed, widespread members approval. Mr. Babuin identified areas for improvement, including: (1) state and regional qualifications and potential adjustments, (2) need for more volunteers above the 15-20 this year and thought on early recruitment, (3) need for integration of the Omnipong system with the lower level control desk, tournament director desk, referee and umpire desk, awards desk and multi-media desk, (4) streaming station need for more commentators and camera feeds, (5) player bios for use by media desk, (5) use of QR codes for player registration and identification at various functions during tournament.. Mr. Babuin said a full report would be issued shortly.

The Board thanked Mr. Babuin and the tournament organizers and volunteers for a well run and much improved 2022 Nationals. It was also agreed Five Star task force that had been involved in the planning of the 2022 Nationals would be reconvened to study Mr. Babuin's recommendations and feedback from the other tournament officials, and to identify areas for further improvement.

Report of the CEO (Virginia Sung)

Chief Executive Officer Virginia Sung described planning for the 2022 US Open to be held at the Ontario Convention Center on December 16-22, 2022. The Board asked a number of questions regarding the US Open.

She discussed with the Board the Ping f the budget Pong Diplomacy events in Los Angeles and Houston and described planning for upcoming events in San Francisco Bay Area (August 14), New York (September), Chicago (September), D.C (October) and Los Angeles (in connection with the US Open in December). The Board discussed the format of Ping Pong Diplomacy team tournaments and planning for the gala dinners.

Audit Committee Report (Kelly Watson)

Audit Committee Chair Kelly Watson reported on the status of the audit of the USATT December 31, 2021, financial statements. She reported that based on current information, a reforecast was unlikely.

Report of the Technology Committee (Bill Draper)

Technology Chair Bill Draper gave a report on the efforts of the USATT Technology Committee. He described the vision of the Committee to build a unified technology platform and presented the vision and project documents which the Committee has approved. The Board asked a number of questions of Mr. Draper. The Board asked that Mr. Draper and the Technology Committee continue to update the Board regularly.

United States Table Tennis Foundation, Inc. Report (Del Sweeris)

USTTF Chair Del Sweeris reported that the Foundation had approved a request from USATT to provide a facility to backstop Ping Pong Diplomacy dinners, to a maximum of \$40,000. While it is the intention of the Ping Pong



Diplomacy planners that these dinners should be break even or profitable, commitments have to be made prior to the selling of dinner tickets and the facility from the Foundation will allow the planners to make these commitments;

Board Member Dan Reynolds Remarks

Board Member Dan Reynolds took a moment to share his recent observations as Deputy Referee at Nationals. Mr. Reynolds answered questions and fielded comments from Board members regarding his remarks.

Board Member Nikhil Kumar Remarks

Board Member Nikhil Kumar took a moment to share his observations as an elite athlete at Nationals, including ways to increase the crowds at finals, seating for coaches in the middle aisle, a request for earlier draws and the number of defaults. Mr. Kumar answered questions and received comments from Board members regarding his remarks.

Executive Session

The Board determined there was no need for an Executive Session at this meeting.

Next Board Meeting – September 5, 2022

The next Board meeting will be held on September 5, 2022.

Adjournment

It was properly moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. Board meeting adjourned at 10:00 am Central time.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Char", is written on a light blue background.

Richard Char
USATT Chair of the Board