



## USATT Board Meeting Teleconference Minutes September 6, 2022

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

Board Members in attendance: **Tara Profitt, Dan Reynolds, Brandon Lawrence, Kelly Watson, Thomas Hu, Will Shortz, and Board Chair Char**

Board Members joining after start: **Tahl Leibovitz**

Board Members not in attendance: **Niraj Oak, Lily Zhang, Arjun Chowdri, and Nikhil Kumar**

USATT Staff: **Virginia Sung** (CEO) and **Mark Thompson** (COO, Athlete Protection Officer, General Secretary), **Jasna Rather** (Para High Performance)

US Table Tennis Association, Inc. Foundation: **Tim Crowley**

Other Persons Present: **Michael McFarland, Willy Leparulo, Larry Hodges**

### **Board Chair Call for Conflicts**

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

### **Approval of Minutes of July 7, 2022**

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following Resolution was unanimously (7-0) approved:

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on July 7, 2022, are approved and formally entered into the record.

### **Acknowledgement for USATT Chief Executive Virginia Sung**

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following Resolutions were unanimously (7-0) approved:

**RESOLVED:** That the USATT hereby recognizes the election of our CEO, Virginia Sung, to the Board of Directors of the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That the Board extends our sincere congratulations and best wishes to Virginia.

### **United States Performance Center**

David Koerner, co-founder and owner of the United States the Performance Center ["USPC"] in Charlotte, North Carolina, addressed the USATT Board of Directors regarding a potential collaboration between USATT and the USPC. Mr. Koerner described the USPC as a research collaborative seeking to improve human performance and health and wellness through nutrition and exercise. Along with his partner, Ike Belk, Mr. Koerner and the USPC have been working for a number of years to connect with the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and various sports in the Olympic Movement. The USPC has current partnerships with USA Taekwondo and USA Women's Field Hockey.



The USPC facilities, which are based on the campus of the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, include a large gymnasium facility, Halton Arena, which can be re-configured in a number of ways to accommodate various indoor sports, including table tennis. There are also other gym facilities on the UNC Charlotte campus, which also has state-of-the-art facilities dedicated to researching human health and high performance. UNC Charlotte has on-campus housing and dining facilities that open potential options for a high performance residency program, as well as possibly hosting large events, such as a major table tennis tournament. Mr Koerner noted that there are potential grants to support sports programs at the USPC, as well as services that would be included in a partnership with a US National Governing Body of sport. USATT's Chief Executive Officer Virginia Sung has visited the USPC facility and, with the guidance and oversight of the USATT Board of Directors, is investigating a potential partnership with the USPC that could benefit USATT's High Performance and Para departments, as well as the USATT Membership.

### **Report of the Chief Executive Officer**

USATT Chief Executive Officer Virginia Sung reported on recent developments and upcoming events and projects for the organization. Ms. Sung stated that she was pleased to report that preparations for the 2022 US Open in Ontario, California (December 16 – 21, 2022) are in full swing and included signing a \$40,000 sponsorship agreement with a California-based sports group. She noted that the Tournament Director from the 2022 US Nationals in Fort Worth, Mike Babuin, has agreed to serve as the Tournament Director for the US Open and is currently working on the Prospectus for the event, which is expected to be released by mid-September.

Ms. Sung stated that USATT considers the 2022 US Nationals in Fort Worth to have been a highly successful event, although she noted that USATT seeks to learn from each event and incorporate improvements into future events.

Ms. Sung congratulated the U-19 and U-15 National Team players who had tremendously successful events in the recently completed Pan American Championships. She stated that fall will include a busy schedule of international events, including additional age-group Pan Am Championships, a World Table Tennis event in Florida, a World Table Tennis Veterans Event to be run in conjunction with the US Open in Ontario, the 2022 World Championships in Chengdu, China, and the Para World Championships. After a successful event in northern California, USATT is also preparing for additional Ping Pong Diplomacy Events in New York, Chicago, DC, and possibly North Carolina.

USATT is currently working on the selection procedures for upcoming elite level international events, including the Pan American Games and the 2024 Paris Olympics. The USATT leadership groups for High Performance and Para High Performance are also currently analyzing the mechanisms that will be necessary to qualify the United States table tennis teams for the Paris Olympics and Paralympics.

Ms. Sung reported that USATT currently has over 10,000 members and the organization has done an excellent job of retaining membership through the first six months of 2022. Ms. Sung noted that she intends to submit the 2023 Budget to the Board of Directors in the near future.



**Audit Committee Report (Kelly Watson)**

Board Member and Audit Committee Chair Kelly Watson reported that the audit of the USATT Financial Statements through December 31, 2021, has been completed, and the auditors have issued a clean opinion on those Financial Statements. Ms. Watson also reported that she and Board Member Dan Reynolds have reviewed USATT's financial statements through July 1, 2022, and there are no current concerns regarding the Year-to-Date Financials. USATT's Audit Committee is expected to review and approve the interim statements.

**Next Board Meeting – December 5, 2022**

Board Chair Char reported that the next USATT Board Meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, 2022.

**Executive Session**

Upon Motion properly presented, seconded and approved, the Board excused the General Membership and moved into Executive Session where USATT Athlete Protection Officer, Mark Thompson, discussed matters related to Safe Sport.

**Adjournment**

It was properly moved, seconded and approved that the Board return to General Session and adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:39 pm US Mountain time.

Respectfully submitted.

Mark Thompson  
USATT General Secretary

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