



MINUTES
USATT Board of Directors Teleconference Meeting

Monday, May 14, 2018

Chair Anne Cribbs called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. EDT.

1. Roll Call and Administrative Matters

The following board members attended:

Anne Cribbs (Chair), Larry Hodges, Ed Hogshead, Tara Profitt, Carlyne Savini, Gary Schlager, Rajul Sheth, Deepak Somarapu, Erica Wu.

Also attending:

Gordon Kaye (CEO), Dennis Taylor (General Counsel and Secretary), Mark Thompson (COO), Carl Danner (Representative of USTTA Foundation), Jörg Bitzigeio (High Performance Director)

A quorum was established. No conflicts were reported.

2. Events Update

World Championships

- The women excelled in single elimination, qualifying for the championship division at the next Worlds.
- The men qualified at #33, will play in the second division, if qualified for the event.
- The men had the youngest team at the event.
- The business results were mixed.
- USATT withdrew its bid for the 2020 World's; however, there is momentum for bringing the 2021 World's to the US.
- The 2021 World's will be limited to 128 men, 128 women, and 32 teams.
- The Pan Am Confederation project is in jeopardy; USATT may be withdrawing.
- ITTF has given ITTF-NA a new development grant; the 2019 amount will go up to over \$100,000.

World Veterans Championship

- WVC2018 tasks are occupying 90% of HQ staff-time.
- Over 100 entrants have withdrawn for inability to secure visas.
- The primary problematic countries include India, Pakistan, and Vietnam (visas denied by US Consulates, not countries of origin).
- The withdrawals will cause lost revenue of over \$100,000; however, there are still over 4000 participants expected in Las Vegas.

2018 US Nationals

- Mr. Kaye only budgeted this year's event for 550 entrants, anticipating conflicts with WVC-2018; however, the number of entrants is currently at 597, with two weeks remaining, well within the event's norms.
- HQ has only heard positives about the new pricing structure (one fee, set at last year's average entry fee, plus 5%)
- This year the event is not going to an outside venue for the finals, and it will not be using Tennis Channel for broadcast coverage.

3. Para Data Protection Guidelines Update

- Sharon Frant Brooks suggested many changes to the draft Guidelines.
- Ms. Brooks is not resistant to the modifying data protection procedures, but she does note that it is a moving target; the IPC has already updated their new rules adopted in January, 2018. Mr. Kaye has not even had enough time to implement those updates.
- It is possible that the classification process will be taken out of NGB's hands.

4. Volunteer Recognition Update

- Ms. Profitt suggests recognizing USATT volunteers with plaques and a reference on the website, maybe twice a year.
- Qualifying standards are still under consideration.
- Ms. Profitt, Ms. Cribbs, and Mr. Somarapu will be meeting to further develop draft plans.
- The Board will discuss the concept further at its June meeting.

5. Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:30 [Note: Minutes are not kept in Executive Session.]

The Board returned to general session at 8:06.

6. Next In-Person Board Meeting

- The Board will next meet in-person on June 20 in Las Vegas. The suggested arrival date is June 19; the suggested departure date is June 21.
- Ms. Cribbs will organize the opening meal.
- The Board will stay at the Westgate hotel.

NOTICE 1. On June 20, the Board will be meeting in-person in Las Vegas, NV. The specific location has yet to be determined.

7. Old Business

n/a

8. New Business

- Jenson van Emburgh won the Slovakia Open in May, 2018! The Board sends its congratulations.
- Kanak Jha will continue competing in Germany next year; he will start playing in the Bundesliga's second division.
- Nicolas Tio and Wu Yue are expected to join him for the next Bundesliga season.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dennis Taylor
Secretary