



BOARD OF DIRECTORS TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2017

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Quorum Established, Conflict of Interest Statements, Welcome Remarks

Ms. Anne Cribbs, Board Chair ("Chair") called the USATT Board teleconference meeting to order at 7:03 pm EST. Roll call was taken, and all members except Erica Wu were present. The Chair established that a quorum was present. A routine call for conflicts of interest was made, and no conflicts were reported.

Members present:

Anne Cribbs, Chairman of the Board (Chair), Independent Director
Larry Hodges, At Large Director
Ed Hogshead, Club Representative Director
Tara Profitt, Athlete Director
Carolyn Savini, Independent Director
Gary Schlager, Independent Director
Rajul Sheth, At Large Director
Deepak Somarapu, National Organization Director

Also in attendance:

Gordon Kaye, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Dennis Taylor, General Counsel and Secretary
Kagin Lee, Rules Committee Chair (left meeting at 7:51 pm)
Carl Danner, Foundation Representative (joined meeting at 7:06 pm, left at 8:27 pm)
Lee Kondo, Assistant Secretary

2. Introduction of Gary Schlager, New Independent Director

The Chair introduced and welcomed Mr. Gary Schlager to the Board. Mr. Schlager had been appointed by the Nominating and Governance Committee.

3. Rules Committee Proposal for Service Judges

Mr. Kagin Lee, Rules Committee Chair, presented his proposal to evaluate the use of service judges at the NCTTA college championships where Mr. Deepak Somarapu will be Referee and Mr. Lee will be Competition Manager. Two service judges, with the added authority to call faults on services, would be assigned to the ends of tables to assist the Umpire and Assistant Umpire.

MOTION 1. MOVED to adopt the proposal of the Rules Committee to allow Service Judges at USATT-sanctioned events. *

Movant: Larry Hodges
Second: Anne Cribbs

MOTION passed by 6:1:1 roll call vote as follows:

In Favor: Anne Cribbs, Larry Hodges, Carolyn Savini, Gary Schlager, Rajul Sheth, Deepak Somarapu

Opposed: Ed Hogshead

Abstain: Tara Profitt

* **NOTE:** To place this Motion in context, please see the updated USATT rules, available online at <http://www.teamusa.org/usa-table-tennis/rules>.

Existing USATT rules state that the referee can appoint all match officials. Under this proposal, a referee has the option to appoint service judges, but he/she is not required to do so.

Mr. Somarapu suggested that if this service judge proposal test at the NCTTA college championships is successful, limited testing could be continued, such as in selected non-critical events at the U.S. Nationals and at other tournaments. The Chair and CEO requested that Mr. Lee and Mr. Somarapu prepare a service judge evaluation report of the NCTTA tournament, including measurable evaluation criteria (i.e., "metrics"), for the Board's review. The Chair further suggested that other tournaments should be used as test sites with a goal towards further testing at the U.S. Nationals. She said that other committees (e.g., HPC, URC, TC) should be given the opportunity to provide their opinions on the proposal.

General Counsel noted that if this proposal is tested at the U.S. Nationals, the entry form must disclose use of service judges. The CEO said that while the entry form release date is March 20th, the entry form and tournament procedures may be revised up to the entry deadline (about June 3rd). The Chair noted concerns expressed by Mr. Hogshead and Ms. Profitt that this service judge proposal would significantly impact the

manner by which tournaments are organized and run. At the scheduled April Board meeting, this proposal will be further discussed.

4. CEO Report

1) U.S. National Team Trials

The upcoming National Team trials in North Carolina were briefly discussed. Since decreased numbers of players (i.e., 31) were expected to participate, budgeted expenses were reduced.

2) U.S. National Championships

800 to 850 players are anticipated to attend the U.S. National Championships in Las Vegas. A tentative event schedule has been released. Prize money has been increased this year as compared to last year.

3) Membership Report

Membership numbers are increasing with double digit growth. In January 2017, membership revenues were up 53%. For February, these revenues were up 50%. Tournament pass growth was 71%.

4) Sponsorship and Fundraising

The CEO stated that meetings with potential sponsors have been scheduled.

5) High Performance (HP)/USOC Update

Regarding the national team trials, Mr. Somarapu raised the issue of decision making for placement of finishers. The national team selection criteria are almost entirely objective. The only remaining subjective test in team selection is for consideration of top players who might potentially miss the trials due to injury or illness, a factor which received strong High Performance Committee (HPC) support. Mr. Danner suggested that the CEO add an entry form statement that there will be no geographic separation.

6) Junior National Team Trials Update

The CEO, Mr. Danner, Ms. Profitt, and Mr. Sheth discussed the format for the combination trials for the Junior National Team and Youth Olympic Team to be held at the upcoming U.S. Nationals. As an initial matter, relevant qualification criteria were discussed. The CEO noted that the ITTF qualification rule differs from Rule 42 of the Olympic code. However, it is not practical to hold a separate trials. The Board should be aware that some criticism will be unavoidable.

7) Seamaster and Newco Update

The CEO noted an April trip to Asia may be scheduled to discuss the Seamaster/Newco partnership.

8) Clubs Update

As of December 31, 2016, there has been growth from 225 clubs to 259 affiliated clubs in the last 2 months. The CEO wishes to introduce a star rating system for clubs.

Mr. Danner left the meeting at 8:27 pm.

5. Appointment of NewCo (Table Tennis USA) Directors

MOTION 2. MOVED to appoint Anne Cribbs, Peter Scudner, and Dennis Taylor as initial directors of NewCo.

Movant: Ed Hogshead
Second: Carolyne Savini

The Motion passed, 7:0:1 (Cribbs).

6. 2017-2019 Committee Appointments

MOTION 3. MOVED to approve membership of the following committees: Compensation, Audit, Ethics and Grievance, High Performance, Rules, Clubs, Veterans, Umpires and Referees. **

Movant: Anne Cribbs
Second: Larry Hodges

The Chair suggested approving all committee chair-recommended committee members as a block. The Chair also thanked Ms. Profitt for appointing athlete representatives to each committee.

The Motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0.

MOTION 4. MOVED to approve Carlyne Savini as chair of the Resource Development Committee, Larry Hodges as chair of the Coaching Committee, and David Lally as Chair of the Tournaments Committee. **

Movant: Ed Hogshead
Second: Anne Cribbs

The Motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0.

****NOTE:** For a complete listing of approved committee members and chairs, and yet to be approved committee members, please see the spreadsheet attached to this document. The listing is current as of the conclusion of the Board Teleconference.

Recommended USATT Bylaw changes to create eligibility standards for committee members will be presented as a future agenda item.

7. Closed Session – Legal Update

The Board entered closed session at 8:40 pm to discuss legal matters. No minutes are taken in closed sessions. Open session resumed at 8:46 pm.

8. Board Meeting Schedule

The next in person Board meeting will be held on April 22nd and 23rd in Milpitas, California. Mr. Rajul Sheth will also be conducting an ICC fundraiser at the same time. The CEO will issue a written schedule of all Board meetings.

9. Old Business

Mr. Somarapu inquired into the status of the SafeSport program. The CEO stated that USATT approved First Advantage for conducting background checks. However, one USATT member has refused to give his social security number to First Advantage. The CEO is awaiting USOC opinion and USATT evaluation regarding the use of alternative background check companies.

In response to Mr. Hogshead's inquiry, the CEO agreed to add SafeSport information in these minutes. The CEO will send follow-up information regarding SafeSport to the Board.

10. New Business

The CEO intends to create a confidential directory of names, email addresses, physical addresses (i.e., home, business), phone numbers (i.e., cell, home, business) for internal

USATT use only. The CEO requests that Board members and committee chairs provide this above requested information to him.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lee Kondo
Assistant Secretary

Committees 2017-2018 (as of March 13, 2017)			
Committee	Approved	Member	Approved
Compensation	Standing	Carolyn Savini (c)	02/25/17
		Gary Schlager	03/13/17
		Tara Profitt (a)	03/13/17
Audit	Standing	Anne Cribbs (c)	02/25/17
		Ed Hogshead	03/13/17
		Rajul Sheth	03/13/17
		Gary Schlager	03/13/17
		Cindy Ranii (a)	03/13/17
Ethics and Grievance	Standing	Lee Kondo (c)	02/25/17
		Carl Danner	03/13/17
		Linda Leaf	03/13/17
		Robert Leventer	03/13/17
		Jasna Rather (a)	03/13/17
Nominating and Governance	Standing	Linda Leaf (c)	02/25/17
		Han Xiao (a)	
High Performance	Standing	Carl Danner (c)	02/25/17
		Sean O'Neill	03/13/17
		Stellan Bengtsson	03/13/17
		Wen Hsu	03/13/17
		Erica Wu	03/13/17
		Tara Profitt (a)	03/13/17
		Tahl Leibovitz (a)	03/13/17
Rules	02/13/17	Kagin Lee (c)	02/25/17
		Joseph Yick	03/13/17
		Pam Fontaine (a)	03/13/17
Clubs	02/13/17	Ed Hogshead (c)	02/25/17
		Flint Lane	03/13/17
		Marguerite Cheung	03/13/17
		Don Hanson	03/13/17
		Tim Wang (a)	03/13/17
Classic Table Tennis	02/13/17	Scott Gordon (c)	02/25/17
		Ty Hoff (a)	

Juniors	02/13/17	Ben Nisbet (c)	02/25/17
Veterans	02/13/17	Azmy Ibrahim (c)	02/25/17
		Lee Kondo	03/13/17
		Rajul Sheth	03/13/17
		Patty Martinez	03/13/17
		Niraj Oak (a)	03/13/17
Tournaments	02/13/17	David Lally (c)	03/13/17
Coaching	02/13/17	Larry Hodges (c)	03/13/17
Leagues	02/13/17		
Resource Development	02/13/17	Carolyn Savini (c)	03/13/17
		Wen Li	
Umpires and Referees	02/13/17	Joseph Yick (c)	02/25/17
		Wendell Dillon	03/13/17
		Saul Weinstein	03/13/17
		Lee Kondo	03/13/17
		Han Xiao (a)	03/13/17