

**USA Weightlifting Board of Directors  
Teleconference Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)  
August 21, 2013**

Call to Order, Artie Drechsler (8:08 pm Eastern time)

1. Roll Call

Directors present: Artie Drechsler, David Boffa, Michael Graber, Terry Grow, Ursula Papandrea, Les Simonton, Ari Sherwin, Emmy Vargas  
Directors absent: Jennifer Ullman

Staff: Michael Massik, Peter Roselli

**Old Business**

1. High Performance Plan Review:

- a. The purpose and philosophy of the HPP was discussed in detail. The discussion included components of planning, budgeting funding and USOC review.
- b. The Board discussed the difference between the HPP and a Strategic Plan and agreed that the next meeting of the Board will focus on strategic planning.
- c. The preliminary calendar which was distributed to the Board was discussed in detail and the focus of the discussion was not to overly subordinate national events to international ones, such as through the scheduling of the National Championship very close to a senior international event in which we were competing, hence the move of the Nationals later on the calendar. The Board directed the staff to indicate that the calendar would include a footnote to indicate that the calendar could be modified based on IWF or PAWF calendar changes.

Motion: To approve the 2014 High Performance Plan draft submitted to the Board immediately prior to its meeting, subject to the changes in athlete support referenced under item 2 below and with a change in the date of the Nationals to early July of 2014.

*Motion approved unanimously*

2. Discussion of the 2014 Athlete Support plan. The minutes from the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were restated for clarity:

- a. Motion: To increase the monthly payment structure a minimum of 20% per Tier, to \$1,200 from \$1,000 for Tier 1, \$840 from \$700 for Tier 2, and \$480 from \$400 for Tier 3
- b. Motion: To apply the unexpended balance of the 5% of total revenue dedicated in the 2013 USAW budget to Direct Athlete Support & Development (DASD) for this same purpose in 2014, in addition to the new year 5% USAW dedication for DASD in 2014, with primary consideration given to using the unexpended balance carried over into 2014 to raising the above noted 20% athlete monthly payment increase to a higher level.
- c. Motion: To increase the number of paid athletes in 2014 to up to 15 maximum, from 10 in 2013, in order to insure sufficient incentivized athletes who are, or can develop into point scoring contributors to the Olympic Games Qualification Event ranking list pool in 2014 and 2015.
- d. Although not anticipated at this time based on the current USAW revenue projection for 2014, should subsequent projections prior to January 1, 2013 indicate actual revenue may fall short of the amount projected, thereby reducing the dollar amount of the 5% dedication anticipated for DASD in 2014, primary consideration shall be given to funding c) by the USAW Board in making its final budgetary determination as to the best distribution between the increases detailed in b) for

monthly compensation payments and c) increasing the number of athletes eligible for monthly payments for the purpose of insuring sufficient incentivized athletes as noted

*Motion was approved unanimously.*

The Board reiterated that 5% of the revenue budget would continue to be applied to the athlete support budget under the plan that was revised at the last meeting. The HPP will reflect this philosophy.

### **New Business**

3. The PAWF insisted that the U15 boys use a women's bar at the U15 Pan Am Championship. Three American records were set by a boy using the women's bar. The Board debated as to whether the new record should be recognized.

Motion: That the American Record set at the U15 Pan Am Championship will be recognized as a valid American record. Additionally, any future records set in International competition in which similar equipment requirements are enforced by the IWF or the PAWF will stand as American records.

*Motion approved unanimously (1 abstention)*

4. The Board has been asked to consider if an athlete receiving support payments should continue to receive those payments while under provisional suspension by the IWF.

Motion: That athlete support payments may be deferred while an athlete is under provisional suspension by the IWF with the ultimate decision regarding the payment being made once the IWF/WADA reached its final determination.

*The consensus is that the Board believes that this direction is correct but has requested that the staff consult council for additional guidance and then report the opinion of council back to the Board.*

5. The Board has been asked by the staff to give guidance as to how the organization manages the distribution of information regarding positive drug tests. Currently, after disposition of a case - under the Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing, USADA publishes any suspension and also notifies USAW of the results. USAW needs to ensure that an athlete who has been declared ineligible not be able to enter a USAW-sanctioned competition.

Motion: That Meet Directors be informed of any athletes that have been declared ineligible by USADA or WADA through the sanction approval process.

*Motion approved unanimously*

Motion: That a notice be created on the homepage of the USA Weightlifting website that creates a direct link to USADA suspensions and includes USADA education. Additionally, Meet Directors will be instructed to review this linkage before the start of a meet.

*Motion approved unanimously*

Meeting Adjourned: 10: 32