

USA Weightlifting  
Board of Directors Meeting – July 8, 2016  
Olympic Sport House, Colorado Springs CO.

**Present:** Ursula Papandrea (Chair), Emmy Vargas (AAC Rep), Colin Burns (Athlete Rep), Butch Curry, Dan Foerster, CJ Stockel (By Phone), Jasha Faye, Terry Grow, Paula Aranda (from Point 5).

**Absent:** Ari Sherwin

**Staff Present:** Phil Andrews, Carissa Gump, Lance Williams

**Guests:** Julie Miller (USOC), Martha Johnson (USOC), Sean Waxman (LWC Presidents Committee Chair)

8.36 – Called to Order. Proposed – EV.

### **1. Paralympic Powerlifting Management**

Phil & Emmy gave some introduction to Julie O’Neill (MD, US Paralympics), to the proposal from the USOC to take over management of IPC Powerlifting in the Paralympic Games after the Rio Olympic Games. Emmy highlighted some funding possibilities.

Julie Miller spoke through the detail of the USOC proposal to manage the US Paralympics including training sites and commitments that would be required of USA Weightlifting, and opportunities for USA Weightlifting.

Group discussion ensued about the for and against of the proposal. Largest concerns included our ability to manage our own sport and growth before we take on a new task.

It was generally felt that it was not a time to take on this responsibility, and a vote was tabled for a later date.

### **2. Fundraising Presentation**

Martha Johnson (USOC) gave a presentation on best practices for NGB Fundraising.

### **3. Bylaw Task Force**

Discussion occurred around the need to modernize our bylaws for the current state of the organization, to address particular operational issues in the bylaws, for example the lack of the LWCs orated in the bylaws

Motion: EV, TG

Solicit candidates for a bylaw taskforce, comprised of 6 at-large members, inclusive of 2 athlete representatives, plus a board-liaison as Ari Sherwin as Chair for a total of 7 committee members.

Votes For: **ALL PRESENT**

### **5. Qualifying Totals (Nationals).**

Qualifying Totals, duly vetted by Competition and Technical Committees were presented.

Motion to approve totals as stated: JF, DF

For: CJS, JF, DF, UP, CB, EV, TG

Against: BC

Men		Women	
56kg	194kg	48kg	133kg
62kg	223kg	53kg	149kg
69kg	246kg	58kg	163kg
77kg	274kg	63kg	170kg
85kg	289kg	69kg	179kg
94kg	300kg	75kg	189kg
105kg	305kg	+75kg	194kg
+105kg	310kg		

(Paula Aranda joined the meeting)

### 6. Qualifying Totals (Youth)

A member's concern was raised about the 16-17 totals are not matching the IWF. CJS & TG gave some background to the reasons why that is the breakdown.

Motion: CJS, JF

For: CJS, JF, CB, BC, TG, UP, PA.

Against: DF

13 & Under/11 & Under – Year of Birth 2004 or Later.			
*An additional 11 & Under medal is given in the total only (Gold, Silver, Bronze)			
Male		Female	
31kg	31kg	31kg	31kg
35kg	35kg	35kg	35kg
39kg	39kg	39kg	39kg
44kg	44kg	44kg	44kg
50kg	50kg	48kg	48kg
56kg	56kg	53kg	53kg
62kg	62kg	58kg	58kg
69kg	69kg	+58kg	59kg
+69kg	70kg		
14-15 Age Group – Years of Birth: 2002 and 2003			

Male		Female	
44kg	80kg	44kg	60kg
50kg	95kg	48kg	69kg
56kg	111kg	53kg	79kg
62kg	126kg	58kg	86kg
69kg	137kg	63kg	92kg
77kg	147kg	69kg	97kg
85kg	154kg	+69kg	101kg
+85kg	159kg		
16-17 Age Group – Years of Birth: 2000 and 2001			
Male		Female	
50kg	105kg	44kg	68kg
56kg	117kg	48kg	76kg
62kg	141kg	53kg	88kg
69kg	161kg	58kg	99kg
77kg	185kg	63kg	110kg
85kg	188kg	69kg	115kg
94kg	192kg	75kg	118kg
105kg	198kg	+75kg	125kg
+105kg	201kg		

### 7. Review of Olympic Qualifying Procedure

A general discussion was had around lessons learned from the 2016 Olympic Selection Process. Staff noted the feedback in order to better formulate procedures for the 2020 Olympic quadrennial.

### 8. Sport Training Plan:

- Phil Andrews & Lance Williams gave a background to the Olympic Training Center closedown and outlined three primarily option
  - Decentralized Training, Centralized Leadership.
  - Regionalized Training Centers
  - Centralized Program

A lengthy and detailed discussion was had covering the detailed level of the programs, approaches to selection, to recruitment and looking ahead to High Performance Planning.

Motion to move forward with a Decentralized Training, Centralized Leadership Program, and instruct the staff to publicize details to the membership and progress with the hiring of a Technical Director.

Motion: EV, PA

For: CJS, PA, EV, BC, JF, UP, DF, TG

Abstain: CB

CJS left the meeting.

### **9. IWF Relations Update**

During the above discussion, Ursula Papandrea and Phil Andrews gave an update on positive meetings with the IWF and other federations at the IWF Junior Worlds in Tbilisi. USA will bid on the 2019 IWF Junior Worlds.

### **10. Ethics Committee**

The ethics committee reported that they find no violation in a recent referral to the Ethics Committee.

Motion to accept the findings of the Ethics Committee as read.

Motion: JF, EV

For: CB, BC, PA, DF, TG, JF, EV.

Abstain: UP

### **11. Payment of Officials at National Meets**

Proposal to pay Officials at National Competition from Phil Andrews and the Technical Committee was accepted.

To approve payment for national event officials. BC, CB.

For: **ALL PRESENT**

### **12. Publishing Sanctions**

A proposal was brought forward to place sanctions imposed by USA Weightlifting for either conduct, ethics, policy or other violations was brought forward. It was agreed the staff would place a sanction list on the website for duration of the sanction only, with a link additionally to the USADA sanction page.

### **13. Bonuses for World Records**

In light of the amazing achievements by CJ Cummings. The board moved to reward World Record Achievements, in the amount of \$1000 per World Youth Record, \$2000 per World Junior Record and \$5000 per Senior World Record. Payments to be made on the final record, and capped at \$15,000 per meet. Payments are to be made both in the lift and in the total.

Additionally USA Weightlifting will be working with Eleiko to send a gold barbell to CJ as a lasting memento of his historic achievement.

Motion: To approve the World Record payment plan additional to the existing bonus scheme as stated.

Motion: BC, CB

For: **ALL PRESENT**

**14. Membership Costs for the 2016-2020 Quad**

Phil Andrews presented proposed membership costs for the 2016-2020 quadrennial, inclusive of a new monthly payment plan for members, to be rolled out in 2017. Membership costs will be frozen then through the 2020 Olympic Games.

The Board of Directors generally approved the proposed new fees and ways of working, however to move forward an agreement on LWC Rebates. For Monthly payments, these are optional not compulsory.

	2012-2016	2016-2020
Membership – Coach (includes Certification fee)	\$85	\$99 (or \$9.99 per month)
Membership – S Athlete	\$50	\$69 (or \$6.99 per month)
Membership – J Athlete	\$40	\$40 (or \$4.99 per month)
Membership – Y Athlete	\$30	\$30 (or \$3.99 per month)
Club Membership	\$150	\$199
Coaching Course – L1	\$445	\$499
Coaching Course – L2	\$445	\$499
Coaching Course – L3	TBD	TBD
Event Entry – Adult	\$75	\$99
Event Entry – Junior	\$75	\$75
Event Entry – Youth	\$75	\$75
Team Entry – Adult/Junr	\$100	\$110
Team Entry – Yth	\$45	\$45
Supporter Member	N/A	\$20.20

**15. Volunteer Membership Proposal (Minnesota High School Program)**

The Minnesota High School Weightlifting Program brought forward an issue in regard to the requirement for a parent who is proposing simply to be an LWC Referee.

After discussion, the solution proposed is a \$30 membership purely for use as an LWC referee in a high school, inclusive of SSCI Background check.

**16. Mandatory Camps for International Teams**

The board discussed issues that have occurred across the quadrennial, one proposed solution was mandatory camps. Issues raised with the proposal included commitments and timelines required for each athlete.

This matter will be addressed in the 2016-2020 Performance Plan, in summary the solution is to agree the “in nation” date for athletes based on their Weight category and performance needs in time for fitness to be assessed ahead of the Verification of Final Entries meeting.

**17. Board & Athlete Advisory Council Elections**

A board and Athlete Advisory Council Election timeline was proposed to allow sufficient time for nominations and for elections to be completed in due time for on-boarding to take place.

July 15, 2016	Nomination Forms Published
September 15, 2016	Nominations Due
September 17-27, 2016	NGC Review & Screen under bylaw
Sept 28, 2016	Nominees announced
Sept 30, 2016	Ballots Distributed
Oct 30, 2016	Voting Ends at Midnight MTN Time
November 5, 2016	Election Results Announced & Finalized
January 1, 2017	New Terms take Effect

**18. Executive Session.**

Executive Session proposed by UP, seconded by EV to speak about drug testing issues.

**19. RTP Submissions for Selection to International Teams**

A discussion occurred around the correct policy around entry into the USADA Random Testing Pool.

Motion:

For any international meet in 2017, or beyond, you must be a member or request in writing (to USA Weightlifting) to be in the RTP a minimum of 6 months ahead of the international competition.

Motion: EV, CB

In Favor: **ALL PRESENT**

**20. Late Entry Policy**

Following some appeals to the Board of Directors, the board discussed the current No Late Entries policy in place, and decided to continue to endorse that policy.

**21. Ability to make Stipend at Local Meets**

A proposal for athletes to be able to make stipend at local meets with 2 or more national or higher technical officials. The proposal was tabled for a later dayte.

**22. LWC Election Update**

The LWC Elections are now nearing completion with only Niagara, Pacific and Allegheny to be organized. South Pacific, South Carolina, Utah and Washington are due to start shortly.

**23. Coaching Education Rating System**

A proposal was made to make a coach instructor rating system. After the discussion, the board instructed the staff to create a robust quality control system for coaching instruction.

**24. North Korea hosting the 2018 World Junior Championships**

The board and staff discussed the award of the 2018 IWF World Junior Championships, and potential solutions to issues around sending athletes to this event. Tabled for another time.

**25. USA Weightlifting to host International Competition for North America**

Endorsement of a proposal to host an international competition similar in nature to the former NACCI meet together with the American Open Series 1 in 2017.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10.14pm