

## USS Board of Directors 01/27/2020 Meeting Minutes

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In attendance for the conference call on 01/27/2020 of the USS Board of Directors (“BOD”) were USS BOD Vice President; Susan Sandvig-Shobe, Secretary; Rusty Smith, Pat Maxwell, Sheree Mehring, Ryan Bedford, Duncan White, and Don Mealing. The listed members in attendance constitutes a quorum of the Board. USS Executive Director Ted Morris, Director of Finance Dale Schoon and AAC Representative Carlijn Schoutens were also in attendance.

Meeting minutes were recorded by USS Membership Coordinator Sara Bowles

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### 1) Welcome

Meeting was called to order by Ms. Sandvig-Shobe at 6:04pm

### 2) Finance Report

Mr. Schoon reported that the 2019-20 Budget Forecast is tracking to budget with limited changes from the last report. Staff is doing an excellent job managing expenses and revenue continues to meet or exceed expectations for the year. Fundraising continues to be a focus with additional sales needed to meet our goals for the Podium Club. Still seeking more contributions and donations at chapter events that haven’t taken place.

### 3) U.S. Speedskating Foundation (USSF) Report

Mr. Schoon shared the current balance of the fund with the BOD which is up significantly due to the current strength of the financial markets.

### 4) USOPC Update

Mr. Morris reported on an upcoming meeting scheduled for early March that will include all the winter sport NGB’s to brainstorm on potential development programs that could impact long term international success. The USOPC recognizes that changes need to be made if the U.S. is to remain a top tier nation in the Olympic Winter Games medal count. Speed skating is part of the USOPC reality tv series, “The Next Olympian.” This will provide an excellent marketing platform for our sport. There are already 400+ applications for those interested in becoming an Olympic Speed Skater.

Mr. Morris shared that USS recently completed three USOPC related audits; a financial audit, a safesport audit and a governance audit.

### 5) Bylaw Change

Mr. Morris shared a recommendation from the USOPC on the governance audit to clearly state in the USS Bylaws that BOD members must agree to abide by the USS Code of Conduct.

A motion was made by Mr. Bedford to change article 15 of the USS Bylaws as follows:

- **Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct.** US Speedskating shall adopt a Code of Ethics, ~~and~~ an Ethics and Conflicts of Interest Policy and a Code of Conduct (the “Codes”) applicable to all US Speedskating Members, employees, Directors of the Board, Officers, and Standing Committees, other Committees, Task Force and/or Commission Members (the “Individuals Subject to the Codes”). The Individuals Subject to the Codes shall (i) annually certify compliance with the Codes. All US Speedskating employees, Directors of the Board, Officers, and Standing Committees, other Committees, Task Force and/or Commission Members shall execute Conflicts of Interest disclosure statements within a timeframe to be determined by US Speedskating.

Second by Mr. Smith; approved.

## 6) AAC Update

Mr. Bedford shared that the USOPC and AAC have come to an agreement on service and support that will provide the AAC more resources. One of the key points of the agreement provides the AAC with a dedicated Executive Director to help manage the business of the AAC.

Ms. Schoutens shared that the USS AAC is actively looking for candidates in the athlete director positions to run in the upcoming election.

## 7) ISU Update

Ms. Sandvig Shobe and Mr. Morris are scheduled to attend the 2020 ISU Congress in June as USS Representatives. USS is still waiting on information from the ISU on the Utah Olympic Oval’s recent designation as an ISU Center of Excellence. Mr. Morris shared that Colombia’s Diego Amya (who trains in SLC) medaled at the Youth Winter Olympic Games which is positive news for our international training program and the future of ice speed skating in Colombia.

## 8) 2020 Election

Mr. Morris provided information on the 2020 USS Board of Directors Election. The Nominating and Governance Committee will be reviewing candidate information in the coming weeks before providing a final slate of candidates for election by the membership.

Ms. Mehring shared that she will not be running for re-election. She is going to be reducing her volunteer speed skating obligations in Minnesota and does not feel she is the right representative for the position moving forward. The BOD thanked Ms. Mehring for her past and current contributions to USS and speed skating.

## 9) Executive Director Report

- a. Upcoming Events – The ISU has asked USS to host a Long Track World Cup in December. This event will include 88 and Counting and a BOD meeting. We will be hosting the

Short Track Four Continents and Short Track Jr. World Champs in January of 2020. USS is still working with Lake Placid in hopes that they will make necessary changes to the 1980 rink allowing it to host major international Short Track Events. The inaugural Long Track Four Continents is this weekend in Milwaukee. Coverage is on the Olympic channel with a highlight show on NBC. Ticket sales are going well for the ISU World Single Distance Championships which will be from February 13-16, 2020. A tribute to Eric Heiden for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his 1<sup>st</sup> gold medal will take place on Saturday, the 15<sup>th</sup>. An outdoor Winter Festival will be held outside during the Championships with sponsor activation, food trucks, a petting zoo, beer tent and axe throwing.

- b. High Performance – The Long Track team is getting an excellent training block in and they're excited to be in North America leading up to the WSD Championships. Short Track had some really good results at the Four Continents in Montreal. We're looking forward to seeing our junior skaters compete at the upcoming Jr. World Championships and look forward to some podium finishes in that event.
- c. Development / Membership – Membership numbers in the National competitor category are up 5% and Club/Rec is up 2%. We're looking forward to joining the Sport 80 Membership Platform which will help the organization on several levels including with an auto renewal option that will help us retain Alumni Members.
- d. Bike Camp – We're Hoping to have dates locked down in the next couple of weeks. Looking around the same time as last year.

## **10) Legal Update**

Mr. Morris shared there is no legal update.

## **11) New Business**

Congress will be May 29-30, 2020 in Morristown, NJ.

## **12) Conclusion**

Ms. Shobe concluded the meeting at 7:28pm