



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**USA National Karate-do Federation (USANKF)**  
**Emergency Board of Directors Meeting**  
**October 13, 2022, 4:30pm Eastern time via Zoom**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Elisa Au  
Rahul Bawa  
Michael Donadio  
Sasha Gerritson  
Pat Hickey  
Brian Mertel  
Matthew Ralph  
Brian Ramrup  
Tom Scott

**USANKF Staff Present**

None

**Others Present**

Stephen Hess, USANKF External Counsel  
(from 4:40pm – 5:00pm Eastern Time)

**Call to Order** – Rahul Bawa called the meeting to order at 4:35pm Eastern Time (ET).

**Waiver of Notice requirements** – By attending this meeting, all Directors waived the 5-day notice requirement for this Emergency meeting. The Emergency meeting was called by the Chair/President due to the desire by certain Board members to have the meeting.

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

- 1) Tom Scott declared a conflict due to his relationship with Brody Burns since Mr. Scott is Brody Burns' student. Mr. Scott voluntarily recused himself from any votes regarding Brody Burns.
- 2) Pat Hickey declared a conflict since he is the Chair of the USA Karate Federation which could be considered a competing organization to USANKF. Mr. Hickey stated that the USA Karate Federation has no interest in becoming the National Governing Body (NGB) for Karate in the US.
- 3) Brian Mertel declared a conflict since John DiPasquale and Phil Hampel were named in the USOPC Investigation Report & Findings.
- 4) Elisa Au declared a conflict since she was coached by Brody Burns while she was on the US National Team and at a WKF Premier League event.
- 5) Brian Ramrup declared a conflict since he is a friend of Tom Scott (due to Tom's declared conflict).

Motion to enter Executive Session made by Elisa Au at 4:40pm ET; seconded by Sasha Gerritson.  
Motion approved: Votes in favor = 5; Opposed = 3; Abstained = 0.



## **Executive Session**

Stephen Hess joined the Board meeting via Zoom at 4:40pm ET.

The Board and Stephen Hess had a discussion regarding the fallout from the USOPC Investigation Report & Findings letter received on September 2, 2022.

Stephen Hess left the Board meeting at 5:00pm ET.

Motion to leave Executive Session and enter Closed Session made by Tom Scott; seconded by Brian Mertel at 5:00pm ET.

Motion approved: Votes in favor = 8; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0.

## **Closed Session**

The Board discussed the actions taken because of the USOPC Investigation Report & Findings letter received on September 2, 2022, including the October 7, 2022, message to all members sent by Rahul Bawa. Mr. Bawa apologized for sending the October 7, 2022, message without Board review.

Mike Donadio left the meeting at 5:57pm ET.

The Board agreed to make the October 20, 2022, USANKF Board Meeting an open meeting with the opportunity for any active USANKF member to attend and submit questions in advance.

## **Adjourn Meeting**

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Rahul Bawa at 6:45pm ET and seconded by Brian Ramrup.

Motion approved: Votes in favor = 7; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0

**Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm Eastern time.**