

**U.S. AQUATIC SPORTS
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS MEETING - MINUTES
MAY 4, 2019
MIAMI, FL**

The following people attended the meeting: Bill Smith, Laurette Longmire, Lucinda McRoberts, Robert Vincent, Mike Unger, Nadine Day, Carol Zaleski, Jim Sheehan, Ginny Jasontek, Adam Andrasko, Kathy Dacey, Greg Eggert, Jeri Marshburn, Christine McMaster-Shah, Dawson Hughes, Patty Miller, Van Donkersgoed, Chris Ramsey and Tom Boak with Dale Neuburger participating via conference call. Athlete representatives from NGBs, as designated, attended: Bryce Klein (DV), Morgan Fuller-Kolsrud (AS) and Andrew Gemmell (SW). Brent Rutemiller, CEO ISHOF/Swimming World, attended as a guest.

President Bill Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. A quorum was present: USA Synchro (Jasontek), US Masters Swimming (Miller), USA Diving (Dacey), USA Water Polo (Ramsey), USA Swimming (Vincent) and USA FINA Bureau member (Neuburger).

1. **INTRODUCTIONS:** All attending introduced themselves. A moment of silence was held recognizing the passing of Don Leas and Jim Wood. Don Leas represented USA Diving and had been a member of the Technical Committee for the World University Games supporting all aquatic disciplines. Jim Wood was a President of USAS and USA Swimming.

Bill Smith described the HBS model for "Governance for Non-Profit Excellence". This is a framework for board-level decision making used by non-for-profit organizations around the world. He shared a Venn diagram used to evaluate strategy choices for non-profits showing three elements that should overlap one another: (1) Mission Statement; (2) Capacity of the organization (financial & people resources) and (3) Support Statement (from stakeholders).

2. **ISHOF** – Brent Rutemiller, CEO, reported that ISHOF has a new Mission Statement and a new 30-year lease with the City of Ft. Lauderdale. A new 27-meter tower, for High Diving, is in the works. He reported that events are needed on the calendar for the upgraded facility. A luncheon, with City leadership, is planned for May 17th and he asked for representation from each NGB and USAS to attend. The pool is scheduled to be operational in October 2020.
3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** The minutes from September 28, 2018, Aquatics Coordinating Board, and September 30, 2018, Board of Trustees, meetings were approved as corrected.

MSP Jasontek

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Tom Boak distributed and discussed the following reports:
 - o 5-yr Historical: A report that compares prior years with and without Convention revenue included. Overall, if there is no revenue from the Convention, all years show a loss. If Convention revenue is included, 4 or 5 years generated a profit.
 - o Financial Policies: The documents distributed included revisions, in blue text, to update reimbursements for various roles for approval in September 2019.
 - o 2019 Convention Budget: Estimated net gain of \$60K. In discussions with a potential sponsor to support Reception.
 - o Balance Sheet: Covers years 2012 through 2018 with Q1 2019 included.

Questions:

- Could not locate 990's on the USAS website. Filed? Yes, and will be posted on the website moving forward.
 - Audit? An audit was completed in 2018 and a copy will be sent to Bob Vincent.
- 5. USAS PROCEDURES MANUAL:** Bill Smith reported that a USAS Procedures Manual, including Policies, was in the process of update.
- 6. USAS CONVENTION(S) UPDATE**
- Nadine Day, the Convention Coordinator, shared the following points for the 2019 Convention:
 - Minutes of the Planning Meeting were distributed to the NGBs
 - Vendors/Registration List: it was moved, seconded and approved to let each Convention registrant determine how their registration data could be used – a yes/no answer for privacy.
MSP Vincent
 - Program Booklet: Historically, a printed program booklet was distributed. The only way to receive a hardcopy will be to opt-in during registration. An online version will be available.
 - Reimbursement Policy: Up to \$130 for meals, with receipts provided and not including alcohol. If a per diem is provided by the NGB, then the person cannot submit for a USAS reimbursement.
 - Bill Smith discussed the unresolved issues related to future conventions – 2020 and beyond. A process has begun to review the contracts for 2020 and 2021 to determine our financial exposure if USAS abrogates the hotel contracts. Local counsels have been hired to review each contact in detail, contact the hotels and to provide recommendations for future actions. Discussion ensued recognizing member NGB needs are changing, use of legacy funds, and the potential financial impact to smaller NGBs. There is a stated objective to resolve all open convention issues before September 2019.
- 7. ATHLETE REPRESENTATION:** Bill Smith then initiated an open forum for all parties present to discuss athlete representation at USAS. Lucinda McRoberts shared that USAS is not required to have 20% athlete representation via the Ted Stevens Sports Act. As defined by the USAS Code of Regulations, all members of the Board of Directors of each NGB are members of the USAS Board of Trustees. As a result, some reasoned that there already is athlete representation within USAS. Bryce Klein, athlete rep from Diving put forth the rationale for athlete representation within USAS. A question of whether USAS should be more formal in defining athlete representation was raised.

A taskforce is to be formed to complete a comprehensive review and update of the USAS Code of Regulations to revise the USAS governance model. 1-2 names, which could include an athlete, from each NGB, should be forwarded to Patty Miller (appointed Head of the newly formed USAS Governance Task Force).

8. FINA & UANA UPDATE

- FINA Bureau Update: FINA VP Dale Neuburger shared the following points:
 - World Championships: Housing will be in a village and transportation will be between Seoul and Gwangju will be a challenge.
 - World Championships Congress: A small group of items will be considered, and we should discuss before the Congress. In FINA, there has not been a

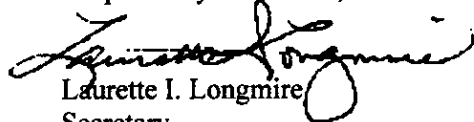
contested election for President in 30 years. One item for consideration is if you are not successful then you cannot be named a member of the Bureau for the next term.

- California Lawsuits: two are still pending against FINA – 1) International Swim League and 2) three athletes.
- 2019 World Championships – Gwangju (KOR), 12 – 28 July and 2019 Masters World Championships – Gwangju (KOR), 5 – 18 Aug
 - General Congress – rotation = SW & WP
 - Chef Update: Chef Jeri Marshburn reported the following:
 - Housing: All in apartments with Chefs on the 1st floor with an office. There is one elevator in the building.
 - Transportation Seoul to Gwangju: Bus is 4 hours, and there is no luggage space on the train.
 - Venue Transportation: Buses between village and competition sites. It is a 90-minute drive to the OW venue.
 - USAS Luncheon: Jeri reported it has been difficult to find a suitable location. It was questioned if this was the best and highest use of funds with the international community to have a luncheon this year at Gwangju.
- UANA Executive Update – UANA President Dale Neuburger reported that two new pools, for WP and SW/DV/AS, are completed.
- 2019 Pan American Games (PAG) – Lima (PER), 27 July – 9 Aug
 - PAG Update: UANA President Dale Neuburger reported that two new pools, for WP and SW/DV/AS, are completed. There are concerns with the OW venue and a monthly water test has been implemented. The water temperature may not rise above 17-18 C° (wetsuit territory). Timing/Scoring/Judging systems personnel, ATHOS, are the same as were in Rio in 2016. Technical delegates from each discipline will be working closely with these individuals to ensure no issues are created.
 - UANA Executive Committee – Nominees (see the list on back)
 - VP and Member: The question was raised if a member of the UANA Executive could be named a sport liaison and the answer is yes. It was moved, seconded and approved to nominate Van Donkersgoed for UANA Vice President.
MSP Vincent
 - Athlete Representative: The election needs to be completed by athletes. Brenda Villa has been nominated to fulfill the role. Bill Smith will oversee the election process.
 - UANA Congress – rotation = SW & SY: Scheduled for August 5 in Lima. New UANA Officers will be elected.
 - UANA Technical Committee – WP Technical Committee nominees have not been identified. Month-end June is the deadline to Laurette. All other discipline Technical Committee nominees have been approved.
- 2020 Olympic Games – Tokyo JPN, 24 July – 9 Aug: Ticketing questions were raised with follow-up required to FINA.
- Future FINA and UANA Bids: No future FINA bids are being considered. Greensboro, NC withdrew from bidding on the 2025-2027 World Championships. They are looking at other FINA events to gain a better understanding of hosting World Championships.
- Max Ritter Award: the 2018 presentation to Lima organizers will be made on August 4th in Lima. Carol Zaleski continues to accept nominations for consideration.

9. **MEDIA:** USAS Media Officer, Greg Eggert, presented a suggestion on naming a replacement for Don Leas, due to his passing, on the World University Games (WUGs) aquatics technical committee. WUGs is scheduled for early July.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04pm.

Respectively Submitted,


Laurette I. Longmire
Secretary