

USA Badminton Board of Directors Meeting
Clarion Hotel Anaheim Resort
616 Convention Way, Anaheim, CA, 92802
Room: Orangewood 3
July 22, 2017

1. Roll Call & Introductions

Present

David Simon – Independent Director
Jon Schmieder – Independent Director
Ray Ng – Technical Official Director
Carl Khor – Coaching Director
Daniel Mehr – At-Large Director
Phillip Chew – Athlete Director
Rena Wang – Athlete Director

Absent

Richard Wirthlin – Independent Director

USAB Staff Present

Jeff Dyrek – CEO/Secretary General
Mohan Subramaniam – Director, Coaching & High Performance
Steve Kearney – Director, Para-Badminton

U.S. Badminton Education Foundation

Beth Sopka

2. Approval of Minutes- Dan Mehr moves to approves, Rena Wang seconds, unanimous approval
3. Chairman's Report (David Simon)
 - a. All board members have made a 2017 contribution to USAB; 100% participation from the board is a strong message to those considering a donation to USAB.
 - b. Vacancy for corporate secretary
 - i. David Simon nominates Dan Mehr, Jon Schmieder moves, Carl Kohr seconds, unanimous approval through his term on the board
 - c. Next meetings
 - i. Next meeting- proposed in Chicago, proposed November 4. Alternative could be at the Para event in Colorado Springs - October 28 (Carl Kohr and Jon Schmieder stated conflicts with October dates)
 - ii. First 2018 meeting – possibly in Boston around the Boston Open. Further discussion will take place at November meeting.
 - d. Bylaw Review
 - i. Section 15.3, modify ten day requirement to 10 business days for Ethics committee to reply to a complaint

- ii. Modify nominating chair appointment to be from BOD chair, with board approval.
 - 1. Jon Schmieder moves, Dan Mehr seconds, unanimous approval
 - iii. Section 9.13, for ethics/judicial committee move from 7 members to 5 members in order to make it consistent with wording of Section 9.3. Phillip Chew motions, Ray Ng seconds, unanimous approval.
 - iv. SafeSports
 - 1. Add language proposed under Section 4; add 4.2
 - 2. Add language proposed under Section 5; add 5.6
 - 3. Jon Schmieder motions to make changes, Phillip Chew seconds, unanimous approval
 - v. Change office location from Colorado Springs, CO move to Anaheim, CA; under Section 2.1, 18.1.
 - 1. Jon Schmieder motions to make changes, Phillip Chew seconds, unanimous approval
 - vi. Rena Wang will send AAC recommendations for review at next meeting
 - e. Committee appointments
 - i. Ethics/Judicial Committee
 - 1. David Blood (Chair) - Members: Kyle Emerick (AAC), Dudley Walsh (Previous Chair).
 - 2. Need 2 more members - David Blood will appoint. Looking for suggestions - coaches, players, others to appoint to the committee.
 - ii. Nominating and Governance Committee (5 spots)
 - 1. David Simon nominates Andy Knox
 - 2. Dan Mehr motions to approve Andy Knox as chair, Jon Schmieder seconds, unanimous approval.
 - 3. David Simon nominates Susan Keating as a member to the committee on behalf of Andy Knox.
 - 4. Dan Mehr motions to approve Susan Keating, Carl Khor seconds, unanimous approval.
- 4. U.S. Olympic Committee Report (Alan Ashley)
 - a. Emphasized their eagerness to work closer with USAB
 - b. Complimented the organization on the move to Anaheim, CA, new CEO hire, recent success of Beiwen Zhang.
- 5. Board of Directors entered into executive session for about 45 mins.
- 6. CEO Report (Jeff Dyrek)
 - a. BWF and PANAM discussions have progressed. Discussing better ways to work together to help support growth of badminton in the U.S.
 - b. Membership
 - i. Currently \$40/yr. USAB is looking at a new membership structure to address the concerns that have been expressed.

- ii. Met with IRC, JAG to get feedback on different membership structure ideas.
 - 1. One idea is a multi-tiered system (Likely 3 levels).
 - iii. Hopes to have a proposal for the next BOD meeting with a potential January 1, 2018 implementation date.
 - iv. Proposal for tournament based trial at MBA closed championships
 - v. Working on potential rebranding of USAB which would include logo and messaging.
 - c. Badminton Goes Viral
 - i. High School based program helping educate teachers.
 - ii. Looking if there is a way to incorporate ShuttleTime.
 - iii. Need to look at how USAB can associate with the program.
 - d. Newsletter
 - i. Working on developing a new monthly e-newsletter, draft is in hand looking for first issue to go out in August 2017.
 - ii. Newsletter is called *Badminton Chatter*
 - iii. Ryan Berry with work with Doug Ingels to generate content
 - iv. Will use it to promote events and other programs within USAB.
 - v. Possibly in the future USAB could look at advertising opportunities in the newsletter.
 - e. Tuition Grant Awarded
 - i. Jaime Subandhi has been awarded a Tuition Grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 through the U.S. Olympic Committee's Athlete Career and Education (ACE) program.
 - f. Beiwen Zhang top 10
 - i. First time event to have a US player in the BWF top 10
 - ii. August 2019 is the expected time for her to receive U.S. citizenship.
 - iii. USOC is not able to assist in expediting the process. Must follow U.S. Government policies.
 - iv. She does not have a coach currently. USAB is talking with the USOC about possible direct athlete support from the USOC in 2018 if she is able to meet the USOC's criteria.
- 7. HP & Junior Discussion (Mohan Subramaniam)
 - a. Coaching (Mohan Subramaniam)
 - i. USAB now has coaching level 1 SP (sport performance- online course) required for Junior Nationals, which generated funding to support coaching work.
 - ii. HP1 and HP2 are on track with weeklong training and tracking
 - iii. ~300 SP coaches and ~150 HP coaches
 - iv. Will look to develop a plan to roll out to high school coaches
 - v. BWF coaching course
 - 1. Good information provided at BWF courses
 - 2. One drawback is that the courses do require a financial commitment to travel to the location where the course is being held.

3. Course requires a BWF trainer.
4. Shuttletime
 1. BWF is running a Shuttletime course in AZ, Jon Schmieder will try to attend.
5. BWF level 1 and 2
 1. Need a week of training in person which requires a large commitment (time and money) from the attendee.
 2. USAB should look to get a U.S. based trainer to make it easier, and more cost effective, to hold course in the U.S.
 3. USAB should look at ways to integrate the program at USAB events. This may be difficult because it may require longer stay commitments.
- vi. Coaching Advisory Group (CAG)
 1. 5 members as part of the advisory group
 2. Currently looking at assigning individual responsibilities
 3. Would like a better link to the regions, one representative per region
8. Para-Badminton (Steve Kearney)
 - a. SS6 Athlete ranked 6th in the world
 - b. High Performance plan is turned in to the USOC. Based on USOC desire for Para, it will focus on growth of the sport, not individual athletes when considering funding.
 - c. Need to work on selection process for coaches and team leaders for events
 - d. October event in US – Colorado Springs
 - i. Revenue shortage ~\$2k-3k to execute the event
 - ii. BWF wants entry form next week
 - iii. BWF sends 3, PANAM sends 2, need 7 from U.S. (USAB only has Jim Greenlees trained currently)
9. COAG (Ray Ng)
 - a. TO fee from \$5 to \$8 going forward to cover costs
 - b. Delays in re-imbursement checks is a persistent issue for TOs
 - c. Continue to struggle with staffing umpires
 - i. Trying to have more umpire clinics (should target more of these at major events)
 - ii. Will have a referee workshop next year to develop new referees
 - d. Tournament director workshop
 - i. Do not have funding for it, but want to run it next year
 - ii. Jeff Dyrek to determine what USAB needs from a tournament director TO/organizer track and communicate with COAG
 - e. BOD expects a COAG budget for 2018 by Oct 1.
10. Athletes Advisory Council Report (Rena Wang)
 - a. Suggested an advisory group assembly with the board annually where all advisory group members, board and staff convene.

- b. Annual Assembly
 - i. Supposed to be in person
 - ii. In past it was tied to Adult Nationals
 - iii. We can investigate high tech solutions to avoid in person meetings
 - c. Para participation on the BOD should be added (player)
 - i. We need to figure out who qualifies in the Para world
 - ii. Need to look at if USAB needs an additional BOD seats given the USOC requirement of 20% athlete representation
 - d. Elite athlete health insurance
 - i. Highest WR eligibility
 - ii. 5 able bodied USAB slots, 2 for Para (AAC wants to get back to 10)
 - iii. Runs April-April
 - iv. AAC suggests not using ranking # but ranking points for selection
 - v. Would like to see the USOC offer 24hr fitness passes
 - e. Educating athletes on how to avoid fines
 - i. Suggest a AAC created packet for athletes on what they need to do to maintain good standing at events and avoid fines
 - f. Collegiate athletes at interns
 - i. AAC thinks the newsletter is a great project for collegiate athletes
 - g. Collegiate
 - i. Richard Wirthlin's collegiate AG has not met yet, but there are competitions in SoCal and NE.
11. USAB Adult Nationals (Rena Wang)
- a. Tri-Valley (Nor-Cal) is interested in hosting; Bintang would serve as the host club.
 - i. Having issues finding an event organizer given the financial risk; low participation numbers
 - b. LABC might be interested in hosting and Manhattan Beach might be interested. SDBC might also be interesting in hosting.
 - c. Dates are a big problem now as October is tough to execute
 - d. IRC will push regions to look for a host for October, need to provide Jeff an assessment on dates, facility capability and organizer capabilities, in the next two weeks.
 - e. 2018 there is a Seattle club that wants to host.
12. International Relations (David Simon)
- a. BWF AGM Update
 - i. Met with Thomas Lund at BWF AGM in Gold Coast
 - 1. Need more detailed strategic plan and how BWF can support
 - 2. Youtube downloads shows US is #2 after India for badminton
 - 3. SingleSports shows there are 7M badminton players in the US
 - ii. Deputy President of BWF is from Peru (Gustavo Salazar) and is under investigation in Peru, and is stepping aside from BWF, this

issue will not conclude for a while, may cause some shifts in structure

13. Hawaii Proposal (Jon Schmieder)

- a. Hawaii tourism is interested in working with USAB to host an event. Discussed possible opportunity for BWF major event (WC, Uber, Sudirman)
- b. Need to continue to explore what opportunity makes the most sense for both USAB, BWF, and Hawaii.

14. Board Priorities for 2017-2018 Term

- a. Para-Badminton awareness
- b. Bylaws including organizational structure with reporting structure and roles/responsibilities
- c. Financial Strength, Membership/Sanction tournament strengthening
- d. Revise National tournament structure (including regional team tournaments) and US Open
- e. Collegiate tournament structure/NCAA groundwork
- f. Hosting Junior, U19 tournaments and try to link them to IC and IS tournaments
- g. Senior tournaments and programing
- h. Dan Mehr moves for the above topics, Carl Khor seconds, unanimous approval

15. New Business

- a. 2018 Junior Nationals looking at Chicago area
- b. 2018 US Open- Working with BWF on date under a new 4-year agreement

16. Adjournment

- a. David Simon motions, Rena Wang seconds, unanimous approval