

**USA Badminton Board of Directors Meeting
Embassy Suites - Anaheim Orange
400 N. State College Blvd., Anaheim CA 92868
Executive Board Room
March 4, 2017**

1. Roll Call & Introductions 8:04am:

Present

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

Absent

Richard Wirthlin – Independent Director

USAB Staff Present

Jeff Dyrek – CEO/Secretary General
Steve Kearney – Para-Badminton

U.S. Badminton Education Foundation

Dave Carton

2. Approval of Minutes from CY16 Q4- Dan Mehr moves to approve minutes, Ray Ng seconds, unanimous approval.
3. Election of Chair for 2017-2018 Term
- a. David Simon self nominates for 2 year term. He has been serving as Chair since Fred Coleman resigned in January 2016. Since he served less than a full year in 2016, under the bylaws he is eligible to serve 2 two-year terms.
 - b. Jon Schmieder moves to confirm David Simon. Phillip Chew seconds. Unanimous approval.
 - c. David Simon notes that in the future we may want to change terms for the Chair to be a 4-year, not 2-year term to align with Olympic quad. However he said that any such provision would not take effect until after 2020 so that he could not benefit personally.
4. Board Administration
- a. Annual Donations- each BOD was encouraged to make their annual donation. Goal 100% donation by Board
 - b. Conflict of Interest Forms- Need each board member to sign and submit

- c. Next Meeting Dates and Locations
 - i. Will have next meeting at the US Open in Anaheim ~July 22.
 - ii. Will shoot for a Northeast meeting in October/November timeframe
5. CEO Report
- a. Office is now closed in CO. Office space (Anaheim, CA) ready late-March
 - i. Storage and two workstations to remain in CO for Mohan and Steve Kearney.
 - b. YONEX
 - i. Was going to extend their current USAB commitment for a year, changed to a four-year contract extension. Currently looking at including Para-badminton as part of agreement.
 - c. US Open
 - i. Anaheim- Reviewing venue options.
 - ii. Looking at Sponsor engagement
 - iii. This is the last year of GPG agreement with BWF, will renegotiate for next four years
 - iv. July 18-23, 2017
 - d. Social Media
 - i. Activating accounts (Facebook, Twitter)
 - 1. 140,000 impressions in the last month; increase from previous month
 - 2. 16,000 engagements increase from previous month
 - 3. USOC Media Agreement
 - a. USOC platform, not financially viable to do independently
 - b. Launch pad website might be an option, but need to investigate
 - c. Need to look at Communication concerns through website
6. USAB Adult Nationals
- a. Need to look at 2017 options; venue and date.
 - b. Agree that we need to look at how to hold the event in 2017.
 - c. Concerns with dates conflicting with BWF calendar.
 - d. Need to look at how we can incentivize athletes to participate.
7. Collegiate Discussion
- a. Need committee to be functional.
 - b. Conversations with the USOC's Director of Collegiate Partnerships, Sarah Wilhelmi, have taken place to discuss NCAA strategy.
 - c. Discussions with NCAA have occurred. The process has been discussed with NCAA on how to get a new sport varsity status. Need to look at adding a new sport under the Emerging Sport platform.
 - i. Need to look at what financial requirements exist for USAB.
 - ii. International students may be a strong selling point to smaller schools
 - iii. Activate Collegiate Advisory Group
 - iv. Club sports will be a starting point to gain collegiate participation.
 - v. NAIA conversations have also occurred.

8. Para-Badminton
 - a. International tournament awarded for Para-badminton in October 2017. Looking at a facility in Colorado Springs, USOC providing lodging and facility. Need TOs.
 - b. TO certification is being developed by BWF, by October
 - i. Need classifier trained to work onsite
 - c. Funding
 - i. VA grant
 - ii. USOC grant
 - iii. PAN AM – are there funding opportunities? Need to see updates from PAN AM meetings.
 - d. New para sport added for Tokyo 2020 in addition to badminton is Judo. Need to explore what partnership opportunities might exist.
 - e. The Para-badminton disciplines to be contested in Tokyo have not yet been determined but a decision is expected this fall.
9. Board of Directors entered into executive session for 20 minutes.
10. Committee Structure Discussion—the board reviewed the existing standing committees and advisory groups
 - a. Three standing committees (20% must be athletes):
 - i. Finance
 - ii. Nominating
 - iii. Ethics and Judicial
 - iv. Ray Ng moves to confirm Jon Schmieder (Finance) and David Blood (Ethics and Judicial) as Committee Chairs, Dan Mehr seconds. Unanimous approval.
 - b. Advisory groups
 - i. JAG
 - ii. TAG
 - iii. COAG
 - iv. Collegiate
11. COAG (Court Officials Advisory Group) Update
 - a. TOs are very overworked
 - b. Large number of Junior events leads to burnout
 - i. Trying to develop TOs for BWF levels
 - ii. COAG requests additional funds for referee training in CY17 or 18
 - iii. Dave Carton to determine average out of pocket costs TOs assume after all payments from USAB.
12. TAG
 - a. Adult Nationals proposal
 - i. BOD is ok with opening up the bidding process again for 2017 to see if a suitable location can be identified.
 - ii. David Simon moves to have TAG communicate the hosting groups to the Office for 2017 and ensure the office awards 2017 Adult Nationals. TAG needs to come back with concrete proposals and bid document to the Office by 5/1/17, Jon Schmieder seconds. Unanimous approval.

- iii. Adult team selection needs to clarify how many people are being selected prior to event
- iv. TAG to provide office a list of approved tournament directors.
- v. TAG to provide a plan for developing a tournament director training program.

13. Athletes Advisory Council Report

- a. Created google drive with BOD access
- b. Facebook page has been created for USAB AAC
- c. 97 respondents to athlete survey
- d. Working on sponsorship with CEO
- e. Olympic ring mentor
 - i. Former Olympians were contacted to mentor juniors/current athletes to help maintain their participation as adult players.
- f. Suggested a Mentorship program post elite career.
- g. AAC discussed possible election for athlete reps so that both athlete positions align with Olympic quad. Jeff Dyrek noted that the USOC encourages staggered terms like what USAB has in place currently. Jeff Dyrek also confirmed that other NGB's use staggered terms for their AAC reps.
- h. USOC will mandate an additional Para AAC rep in next quad cycle due to Para-badminton's inclusion in the Paralympics.

14. High Performance & Juniors

- a. Juniors
 - i. Simply Compete
 - 1. Will process all of the data from last year for ranking by May
 - 2. Rating system will not start until ranking system is done (will not be implemented until 2018)
 - 3. Progress report for the next BOD meeting outlining Simply Compete's progress on priority list (generate a scorecard).
 - ii. New tournament structure - Carl and Ray presented an overview of the new junior tournament structure and reviewed the steps which preceded its adoption in August 2016. Yvonne said that the new structure was opposed by many members and parents. She urged the board to approve a one year delay in the implementation of the new structure, saying that this would allow for changes in order to address the concerns of those members who are opposed to the new format. Yvonne noted that board members had received a petition opposing the new structure, with more than 600 signatures. Ray pointed out that a counter-petition in favor of the new structure also had been received, also with more than 600 signatures.

After extended discussion it became apparent that there was not a majority of the board in favor of a delay. Yvonne acknowledged this result, bringing the discussion to a close without any formal vote by the board.

15. Budget Discussion & Approval

- a. Discussion/review on the process for generating budget information for the board.
- b. Dan Mehr motions to approve the budget, Carl Khor seconds. Passes unanimously.
- c. Draft 2018 budget will be prepared for Oct/Nov BOD meeting so that approval can be obtained prior to the start of the next CY.

16. Board Priorities for 2017-2018 Term

- a. Various board priorities for the 2017-18 board term were discussed but a decision on the priorities was postponed until the next board meeting on July 22.