



USA Badminton Board of Directors Meeting
1:00-6:00 pm EST March 13, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Participants:

Directors Present: Ken Wong, Nibu Paul, James Young, Rena Wang, Beth Sopka, Nancy Hogshead-Makar, Dean Schoppe, Fred Teng and Amy Burnett

Directors Absent: Patty Pflaging

Staff/Other: Linda French (CEO), Alistair Casey (Chief of Staff), Steve Kearney (Director, Para-Badminton), Chris Hales (Chair, Ethics Committee), Jamie Subandhi (Special Projects Manager), Trenton Szeto (Intern), USAB member observers

SafeSport Presentation: CEO Ju'Riese Colon & VP, Audit & Compliance, Hannah Hinton

1:00-1:05	Roll Call & Introduction
1:05-1:10	<p>Conflict Review - Ken stated upon his and Linda's review that at this point no board members have any conflicts of interest with today's meeting topics.</p> <p>Confirmation of Linda French as CEO - Ken announced Linda's new title as the CEO.</p> <p>Minutes of December 5, 2020 meeting approved unanimously on Feb 10th in remote board zoom meeting.</p> <p>Approval of Feb 10th Board Meeting minutes, vote</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Beth Sopka motions to approve.2. Fred Teng seconds the nomination.3. Board votes (9) yes, (0) no, (0) abstain.4. Board unanimously approves. <p>Introduction of new At Large BOD member, Dean Schoppe.</p>
	Voting on Officers & Appointments:

1:10-1:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination of International Federation Delegate, vote <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vote to have Rena Weng continue for another term. 2. Beth Sopka motions to approve. 3. James Young seconds. 4. Board votes (8) yes, (0) no, (1) abstain (Rena Wang). • Nominate Chair of Nominating & Governance Committee, vote. The committee will serve for another term, one independent member will be elected by previous N & G Committee and one Athlete member is selected by ARC <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vote to have Jenny Chen continue for another term. 2. Rena Wang motions to approve. 3. James Young seconds. 4. Board votes (9) yes, (0) no, (0) abstain. 5. Vote for Liz Aronsohn as Independent Member. 6. Dean Schoppe motions to approve. 7. Beth Sopka seconds 8. Board votes (9) yes, (0) no, (0) abstain. 9. Chinue De La Merced to continue as the ARC appointed member. • Nomination of Chair of Ethics Committee, vote. The Ethics Chair then appoints 3 members and ARC to appoint the Athlete member <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vote to have Chris Hales continue for another term. 2. Dean Schoppe motions to approve. 3. Beth Sopka seconds. 4. Board votes (9) yes, (0) no, (0) abstentions. 5. Kyle Emerick appointed as the ARC member. • Chair and members of the Finance & Audit Committee, Nibu Paul is Chair, James Young (appointed as the ARC member) and Fred Teng.
1:20-1:25	<p>Conflict of Interest Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ken asked all members to get these filled out and in by the end of the following week.
1:25-1:30	<p>Domestic Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US Open cancelled and Canada Open cancelled. Covid-19 and timing was the reasoning. • 2021 Junior Nationals is anticipated to happen, but most likely not in California. Potentially to be held in a state that is more open currently with the Covid-19 rules. There will need to be qualifying tournaments before the upcoming events for the athletes. Linda let us know that JAG is working on this and looking into all aspects at this time. • Senior, Para & Adult Nationals also being discussed. <p>International Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olympic Qualifying • World Championships (Nov 29-Dec 5 Huelva, Spain)

	<p>Junior Team Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Pan Am Championships (July 19-23 Acapulco, Mexico) Still to be held, at the time of the board meeting. • World University Games (Aug 18-29 Chengdu, China) • Junior World Championships (Oct 4-17 Chengdu, China)
1:30-2:55	<p>Center for SafeSport Presentation, SafeSport CEO Ju'Riese Colon Introduction by Nancy/Alistair Presentation, Duties of the Board, Mandatory Reporting, Q & A Ju'Riese Colon introduced Hannah Hinton VP Audit & Compliance.</p>
2:55-3:05	Break
3:05-3:20	<p>Website Update – working to be off of the USOPC site soon. Email Update – both the email and website are functional.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goal is to be more visible to the members. • We are getting independently stronger and will be hosted by Google, not USOPC. <p>Membership Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership is slightly increasing. • Life Members and 1-time members' promotion once return to play.
3:20-3:30	<p>Advisory groups (TOAG/JAG/CAG/TAG/D&I)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Advisory Group- fully formed and introductory meeting has been held. • Technical Officials Advisory Group – held introductory meeting. • Coaching Advisory Group election to be conducted. • Tournament Advisory Group, merged with TOAG • Beth Sopka to lead preparation of Tournament Director Handbook • New volunteers to learn Junior & Adult Rankings • Diversity & Inclusion still forming, not basing on regions.
3:30-3:35	<p>Para Badminton Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steve Kearney stated that the last qualifying tournament will take place in Spain. - Para Athlete, Miles Krajewski, was just awarded financial support from the USOPC to cover his training and travel expenses leading to the games.
3:35-3:40	<p>Fundraising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fred Teng mentioned that sponsorship feels excited that (1) of the (3) companies they are in communication with at this time will want to come on board with USA Badminton.
3:40-3:45	<p>Empowering Olympians Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33% Athlete Representation needs to be implemented by January 1, 2022, 4.1e & 7.5, 9.4 • Audit of terms for Board & Committees. (4) years on a board and (2) years on a committee.

3:45-4:00	<p>IRC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beth Sopka stated that they will hold a vote to place someone in the position Dan Mehr left vacant. <p>Governance discussion on holding elections with only USAB members voting.</p>
4:00-4:05	<p>Financial Projection / Finance & Audit Committee Update PPP / Texas Event Fund / Grant Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costs have been cut as much as possible. - Linda has cut her pay 20% and still have reduced hours for the other staff and some are volunteers. - First PPP loan has been forgiven - Applied for the 2nd PPP loan. - 2021 USOPC Grant for \$92,000 - We would like to thank our sponsor, Yonex, for their continued support. - Still waiting on Texas Event reimbursement from 2019 Junior Nationals. - Money will start to come in in memberships as we begin to have events and more clubs are able to open. - We have a \$10,000 grant request submitted to US Badminton Education Foundation for Coach Certification. - We will submit two additional grant requests to USBEF for Technical Official Training and Para badminton expansion. - Our grant request with BWF is pending - We are getting insurance quotes as between the sexual misconduct cases involving NGB's and COVID, insurance rates are increasing.
4:05-4:10	<p>ARC Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having meetings every other week and setting goals to finding ways to become more visible to the athletes that they represent.
4:10-4:15	<p>Olympic Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status – Beiwen Zhang is now a US Citizen. • Issues- Brazil proposed to BPAC that qualifying be stopped due to COVID travel restrictions • Next Steps – few qualifying tournaments remain
4:15-4:18	<p>International Federation Delegate Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badminton Pan Am • BWF Council Nomination (20) council seats up for nomination (2) Pam American slots open. 1st time gender quotas. Rena Wang to run for Council. May 22, 2021 election.
4:18-4:21	<p>BWF Coaching Certification</p> <p>Many have completed the online course for Level 1. Working on getting the in person now coordinated with BWF once COVID allows travel.</p>
4:21-4:25	<p>Parking Lot Topics / Next Steps / Wrap Up Open Session</p>
4:25-4:27	<p>Call to adjourn the meeting</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nancey Hogshead-Makar motions. 2. Fred Teng seconds. 3. Board unanimously approves. <p>Adjourn</p>
4:27-4:28	<p>Executive Session</p> <p>No executive session was held after this meeting.</p>