

# **U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors**

## **Conference Call Agenda – FINAL**

**Monday, August 5, 2019; 8:00PM ET**

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of July 1, 2019 Board of Directors Minutes and ROA
5. Foundation Meeting Update
  - a. Spending Policy Update
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Vice Presidents' Reports (Pacific Coast, East, Midwest)
8. Group Coordinators' Reports
  - a. Membership Development
    - i. 2019 Governing Council Review
  - b. Administrative/Legal
    - i. Grievance matters
  - c. Athlete Services
  - d. Technical and Officials
  - e. International - ISU Representative
    - i. General
    - ii. 2019-2020 Selection Procedures RFA (Figure – Worlds, 4Cs, Jr. Worlds)
    - iii. Bye Guidelines RFA
    - iv. Athlete Release Request and Update
    - v. ISU Communication 2265
9. AAC Report
10. Executive Director's Report
  - a. USOC Update
  - b. 100th Anniversary Working Group
  - c. Other
11. New Business
12. Executive Session
13. Next Meeting – Conference Call – Monday, September 9, 2019 – 8pm ET/5pm PT

**U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors**  
**Via Conference Call**  
**August 5, 2019, 8:00 p.m. ET**

**Present**

Samuel Auxier (Past President), Gretchen Bonnie, Anne Cammett (President), Kristin Arneson Cutler, Christine Fowler-Binder, Janis Engel, Lynn Goldman, Troy Goldstein, Bob Horen (ISU Representative), Mark Ladwig, Jenna Longo (joined at 8:30 p.m.), Bobby Martin, Colin McManus (non-voting athlete), Heather Nemier, Richard Perez, David Raith (Executive Director), Douglas Razzano, Karen Terry Perreault, Alan Wolf

**I. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting**

- A. Cammett welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
- B. Bonnie took roll call, and a quorum was confirmed.
- C. The agenda was approved.
- D. The July 1 minutes and report of action were approved.

**II. Foundation Meeting Update**

Cammett, Goldstein and Raith reviewed the Foundation Meeting. They reported that a small working group has been formed to look at the Foundation spending policy and U.S. Figure Skating's requests.

**III. Treasurer's Report**

- A. Goldstein reported that preliminary end of the year numbers look good and announced that the audit has been moved to September.
- B. Goldstein stated that he was recently in Colorado Springs and met together with CFO Mario Rede and Merrill Lynch.

**IV. Vice Presidents' Reports**

- A. Pacific Coast
  1. Engel stated that her July call was held on July 16 and that the subject was "membership issues" including compliance.
  2. Engel reported that all three vice presidents had recently gotten together and sent out an email to club officers titled "Qualifying Season Reminders" which stressed entry deadlines as well as providing information on NQS.
- B. Eastern
  1. Nemier stated that she had a call on July 23 that included the membership team from headquarters.
  2. Nemier stated that the three vice presidents are working closely together to keep communication lines open with their members.

< 8:30 p.m. ET, Longo joined the call >

C. Midwestern

1. Cutler stated the membership team from headquarters was also on her mid-July call, which was well attended and had lots of participation.
2. Cutler stated that she has had inquiries regarding the dates of nonqualifying competitions, and we may need to review policies regarding giving sanctions.

**V. Group Coordinators' Reports**

A. Membership Development Group

1. Wolf reported that the Governing Council working group has gone thru the survey results and is working on the takeaways. Membership made it clear that cost is a driving factor for attendance. The working group is focused on ways to make Governing Council more economical and interesting. It was determined that membership liked The Antlers in Colorado Springs, and the board had no objection to holding the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year Governing Council meeting in 2021 in Colorado Springs.
2. Wolf announced membership numbers as of the end of July (one month into the new season) and that Learn to Skate USA leads with the highest percentage of increase.
3. Wolf stated that several programs are in the process of developing videos, handbooks and other materials.
4. Wolf stated that the comprehensive membership meeting will be held next weekend in Pittsburgh.

5. Wolf announced that the final adaptive skating SkateFest event will be held next week in Florida.

B. Administrative/Legal Group

1. Perreault reported that SafeSport leaders and USA team leaders for junior events recently met in Colorado Springs during the Junior Team Leader Training Session, which included discussing issues and expectations. Perreault stated that it was a very productive meeting, and that parents have been informed of these updates and are supportive of the new initiatives.
2. Perreault reported on the current workload of the Ethics and Grievance Committees.

<Executive Session>

<The board concurred regarding the resolution of the Stipulation of a Grievance Matter from the chair of the Grievance Committee.>

<The board concurred with the recommendation of the chair of the Grievance Committee to a three-year suspension and corresponding requirements for reinstatement of an individual from U.S. Figure Skating.>

<End Executive Session>

3. Raith reported that the U.S. Center for SafeSport conducted an audit of U.S. Figure Skating at headquarters recently. He stated that U.S. Figure Skating policies and procedures were well received and that a final written report will be supplied to U.S. Figure Skating within two months.

C. Athlete Services Group

1. Goldman reported that the Coaches Committee is offering an ISU rule update webinar for coaches of singles skaters on August 20, and there will be a dance webinar for coaches with Robbie Kaine and Julia Rey in late September.
2. Goldman announced that the Pairs Development and Technical Committee has posted 2019-20 Calling Clarifications for Junior and Below, the 2019-20 ISU Technical Panel Handbook, updated Singles/Pairs – Who’s Responsible for Deductions, updated the Pairs Free Skate Elements for No Test through Senior, and is currently working on criteria for Special Achievement Awards for the 2019-20 challenge and final.
3. Goldman stated that the Dance Development and Technical Committee has posted 2019-20 Pattern Dances, 2019-20 ISU Technical Panel Handbook, 2019-20 Ice Dance Deductions for Pattern, Rhythm and Free Dance, and ISU Q&As #1 and #2.
4. Goldman stated that the Singles Development and Technical Committee has posted 2019-20 Singles Calling Clarifications for Junior and Below (revised), posted the 2019-20 ISU Technical Panel Handbook, updated Singles/Pairs – Who’s Responsible for Deductions, updated the Singles Free Skate Elements for No Test through Senior and is working on the criteria for the Special Achievement Awards for the 2019-20 challenge and final.
5. Goldman reported that the Sports Sciences and Medicine Committee held a webinar for referees on August 1. There were 40 attendees, and it was recommended that next year the participants should receive earlier notification. The webinar is now available on the Members Only site.
6. Goldman stated that the Synchronized Skating Committee has posted ISU Communication No. 2270 – Difficulty Groups of Elements and Additional Features for 2019-20; held two DREAM Camps in July (which were well attended by athletes as well as coaches); held a National Synchronized Skating Summit and Coaches College in July that was attended by 112 athletes and 124 coaches; is working on content for SKATING magazine to promote synchronized skating; is updating criteria for Special Achievement Awards for the 2020 synchronized sectional championships; and will be announcing the 2019-20 National Synchronized Skating Series soon. This series is designed to promote developmental levels at nonqualifying levels in all three sections by having teams compete against one another in a national competition series.

D. Technical and Officials Group

1. Perez reported that all invitations for officials for the 2019-20 qualifying season are out.
2. Perez commended Molly Marron for a job well done with the 2019-20 Judges Rules Review.
3. Perez thanked the vice presidents for sending out the NQS memo.
4. Perez expressed an issue with the travel policy that needs further review.

E. International Group/ISU Representative

1. Horen reported that all officials sent to Frankfurt in July for testing were successful.

2. Horen stated that assignments have been made for officials and calls are being made to finalize athlete assignments.
3. Horen reviewed the selection procedures for the 2020 World, Four Continents and World Junior Championships and how they were prepared, and then made the following motion:

**<Request for Action>** to approve the selection procedures for the 2020 World Figure Skating Team, 2020 Four Continents Team and 2020 World Junior Figure Skating Team. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 absent)

4. Auxier reviewed the bye guidelines and how they were prepared. Goldstein then made the following motion:

**<Request for Action>** to approve the Guidelines for International Byes for Singles, Pairs and Ice Dance for the 2019-20 Season. (15 yes, 0 no, 0 absent)

5. Raith gave an update on athlete release requests.
6. Horen gave a summary of ISU Communication No. 2265, specifically addressing concerns regarding Section 1.5, appointments to technical panels.

**VI. AAC Report**

- A. Ladwig stated that the vice chairs are planning the Athlete Corner for the September issue of SKATING.
- B. Ladwig reported that the next AAC call will be held on August 8.
- C. Ladwig discussed the recently announced Olympic Committee restructuring bill from the Senate and the definition of an "athlete".

**VII. Executive Director's Report**

- A. Raith gave an update on the USOPC and commented on recent news releases in the press.
- B. Raith announced that Colin McManus will replace Kirsten Miller Zisholz as the U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors representative on the PSA Board of Directors effective this month.
- C. Raith discussed sponsorship updates.
- D. Raith stated that the Events Advisory Board will have an update for the September board meeting.

**VIII. New Business – None**

The next business meeting of the board will be via conference call on Monday, September 9, 2019, at 8 p.m.ET.

Call concluded at 10:08 p.m. ET

Submitted,



Gretchen Bonnie, Secretary