

U.S. FIGURE SKATING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020, 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. CT
Chicago, IL
“RFA” = Request for Action

FINAL AGENDA

- 1. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting** **8:55am-9:00am**
 - a. Welcome
 - b. Call to Order
 - c. Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum
 - d. Adoption of Agenda
 - e. Acceptance of Minutes/ROA from the January 13, 2020 BOD Conference Call

- 2. SafeSport Update** **9:00am-10:00am**

- 3. Treasurer’s Report/Budget Review** **10:00am-Noon**
 - a. Review of Q2 Statement of Activities ending December 31, 2019
 - b. Review of draft FY2019 (2019-20) proposed budget
 - c. Handout and overview of proposed updated 4-Year Business Plan
 - d. Distribution of 2018-19 Draft 990

- *****LUNCH******* **Noon – 12:30pm**

- 5. Vice Presidents** **12:30pm-1:00pm**
 - a. Pacific Coast
 - b. Eastern
 - c. Midwestern

Group Coordinator Reports

- 6. Admin/Legal** **1:00pm-1:20pm**
 - a. Adoption of the 2019-20 Strategic Plan Update
 - b. SafeSport Bylaw Proposal
 - c. Grievance Matters (Executive Session)

- 7. Technical & Officials** **1:20pm-2:00pm**
 - a. General
 - b. Trophy RFA
 - c. Service/Support Animals at Competitions
 - d. NQS/NDC discussion

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| 8. | Athlete Services | 2:00pm-2:20pm |
| 9. | Athlete Advisory Committee | 2:20pm-2:30pm |
| 10. | Coaches | 2:30pm-2:40pm |
| 11. | Membership Development | 2:40pm-3:00pm |
| | a. General | |
| | b. “Aspire” Update | |
| 12. | ISU Representative | 3:00pm-3:20pm |
| | a. General | |
| | b. Olympic Team Manager Selection Procedures - RFA | |
| 13. | Executive Director’s Report | 3:20pm-4:00pm |
| | a. General (including 100 th Anniversary/Website Update) | |
| | b. Preparation for the 2020 Governing Council – Las Vegas, NV | |
| | i. Bylaw Proposals, Requests for Action and Reports deadlines – Feb. 15 and March 1 | |
| | ii. Governing Council Meeting Schedule – draft | |
| | iii. March BOD Conference Call – Monday, March 9, 2020 (2 weeks away) | |
| | iv. April Board of Directors Go-to-Meeting – Monday, April 6, 2020 | |
| | v. President’s Webinar – Wednesday, April 8, 2020 | |
| | vi. Coordination of April VP calls – week of April 13, 2020 | |
| | vii. Board Meeting at GC – Las Vegas, NV: Wednesday, April 29 – 8am-5pm ET (arrive Tuesday, April 28 pm) | |
| | c. Misc. | |
| 14. | New Business | 4:00pm-4:10pm |
| 15. | Executive Session | 4:10pm-4:30pm |
| 16. | Closing Announcements and Adjournment | 4:30pm |

(Next Meeting – Conference Call – Monday, March 9, 2020 – 8:00 p.m. ET)

**U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors
In Person
Chicago, Ill.
Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020; 9:00 a.m. CT**

Present

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

Absent

Bobby Martin

Guests

John Anderson, Juliet Newcomer, Mario Rede, Kelly Vogtner

I. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting

- A. Cammett called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- B. Bonnie took roll call, and a quorum was confirmed.
- C. The agenda was adopted as presented.
- D. The Jan. 13 minutes were approved as presented.
- E. The Jan. 13 report of action was approved as presented.

II. SafeSport Update

- A. Raith notified the board that there was a SafeSport meeting yesterday and then introduced Perreault, who reviewed the meeting in more detail.
- B. Perreault discussed increased funding and changes that need to be made to effectively manage all of the aspects of SafeSport, and Anderson provided additional information. Board members discussed and supported Perreault's recommendations.
- C. Raith reviewed a presentation made to Congress from the U.S. Center for SafeSport that included statistics on cases, staffing and funding, as well as the response and resolution process.

<10:12-10:22 a.m. CT – Break>

III. Treasurer's Report/Budget Review

- A. Goldstein recognized Rede for all his work on the budget process and stressed that the athletes are the priority. Goldstein then reviewed the agenda for the presentation.
- B. Goldstein reviewed the Statement of Activities through the second quarter, which ended Dec. 31, 2019.
- C. Goldstein recognized the finance liaisons and senior directors for their help during the budget process and reviewed the steps taken so far.
- D. Goldstein reviewed some key items and assumptions regarding the FY 2021 (2020-21) budget. Goldstein then reviewed the proposed budget, and the board discussed and approved some changes. Goldstein then made the following motion:

<**Request for Action**> to approve the 2020-21 final budget for presentation to the 2020 Governing Council (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent).

- E. Goldstein reviewed the updated four-year business plan, including key assumptions. Raith asked the board members to review the four-year business plan in detail for further discussion at the next in-person meeting at Governing Council.
- F. Goldstein reviewed the 2018-19 draft Form 990 and how the document is broken up. Goldstein then asked the board members to review it on their own, and contact him and Rede by Feb. 27 if they have any questions. The 990 will then be posted on the U.S. Figure Skating website on March 1.

<11:50-12:30 p.m. CT – Break>

<12:15 p.m. CT – Rede and Anderson left the meeting>

IV. Vice Presidents' Reports

A. Pacific Coast

1. Engel reviewed her VP call from Jan. 14 which focused on social media with Erika Lehman presenting.
2. Engel reported that she has not yet held her VP call for February.

B. Eastern

1. Nemier reviewed her VP call from January, which also focused on social media.
2. Nemier reviewed her VP call from February, which focused on NQS and the qualifying competition season, with Mia Corsini presenting. Membership Committee Chair Patrick O'Neil and Susi Wehrli McLaughlin also spoke about membership issues and the new Aspire program.
3. Nemier's March VP call will be Thursday, March 12.
4. Nemier reviewed the 2020 Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships, and she will also be attending the 2020 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships in Providence next week.
5. Nemier notified the board that all three vice presidents have been fielding questions about NQS and the competition calendar.

C. Midwestern

1. Cutler reviewed her VP call from January, which also focused on social media.
2. Cutler reviewed her VP call from February, which had the same presenters as Nemier's call. They also discussed Governing Council and registering delegates.
3. Cutler notified the board that her March VP call will be a week after the other VP calls.

V. Group Coordinators Reports

A. Administrative/Legal

1. Perreault asked Vogtner to review the updated Strategic Plan, and Vogtner notified the board that there was no substantial feedback after presenting the updated strategic plan in the fall. Wolf then made the following motions:

<**Request for Action**> to adopt the updates to the Strategic Plan for 2018-2022. (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent)

2. Perreault reviewed a bylaw proposal that will be presented by the SafeSport Committee.

<Executive Session> – Grievance Matters

3. Perreault reviewed a recommendation from the Grievance Committee and then made the following motion:

<**Request for Action**> to concur with the recommendation of the chair of the Grievance Committee for a stipulated resolution of a grievance (11 yes, 0 no, 1 recusal, 2 abstain, 1 absent).

A. Technical and Officials

1. Perez reviewed a trophy request from the Capital Skating Fund. Nemier disclosed that she is a trustee for the Capital Skating Fund and provided additional information. Goldstein then made the following motion:

<**Request for Action**> to approve a new perpetual trophy for the juvenile girls champion at the South Atlantic Regional Singles Challenge (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent).

2. Perez reviewed Technical Notification 238 regarding animals on the officials stand to determine if more restrictions are necessary. There was discussion about the legal requirements. There were no objections to increasing the restrictions, but there will be further review before making any changes.
3. Perez notified the board that one of the ISU proposals for the next ISU Congress is to change the word "ladies" to the word "women", and encouraged us to consider how we want to address this in the United States. Raith stated that he and Newcomer will review this from a rulebook standpoint.
4. Perez asked Vogtner to review the feedback from the first season of the National Qualifying Series and proposed changes. Vogtner then reviewed the process for selecting competitions for the 2020-21 series. Cammett stated that she will put together a small group to review this further.
5. Goldman recognized Vogtner and Justin Dillon for their work on the National High Performance Development Team Camp and reported on all the positive feedback she has heard. Horen also

recognized the extensive work of headquarters staff, and reported that the camp was a success. Auxier and Razzano spoke to how the structure improved the selection process for Team USA. Vogtner concluded with a discussion about the coaches' track.

B. Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC)

1. Ladwig reported that there was an AAC call last Thursday. Moyer presented the draft Olympic Selection Procedures at the end of the call.
2. Ladwig asked if he could (and was given permission to) share survey results with the athlete reps and provided some additional feedback.
3. Ladwig announced that the athlete dinner for Governing Council is still on the tentative schedule and asked the board members to provide ideas, as there are concerns about getting people to attend on a Saturday night in Vegas. The board also discussed other options, including dinner on Friday, or possibly a lunch on Saturday.
4. Ladwig reported that the USOPC AAC election is upcoming, and he is starting the work for the transition. Ladwig informed the board that there is consensus from the athlete group that athletes who have been released and are competing for another country don't qualify for this position. He is also reviewing other requirements.
5. Ladwig provided feedback about the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, including concerns about the limited chaperone passes per skater. Upon request from Raith, Ladwig agreed to put the concerns in writing.
6. Ladwig informed the board that Carolina Zhang has agreed, and Sean Rabbitt has tentatively agreed, to serve on a newly reconstituted 100th Anniversary working group.

<2:10-2:20 p.m. CT – Break>

C. Athlete Services

1. Goldman reviewed some ballots that will be sent out soon, including some potential changes for pairs and ice dance. Horen provided additional information on a meeting that led to the proposed changes for ice dance.
2. Goldman notified the board that she will also be attending the 2020 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships.

D. Coaches

1. Fowler-Binder reviewed a request for action to expand the requirements for PSA membership, which is currently being balloted through various committees.
2. Fowler-Binder provided a brief report on ice dance.

E. Membership Development Group

1. Wolf announced that overall membership is up 4,356 through the end of January 2020 when compared to the same period last season, and reviewed the specific categories.
2. Wolf reported that the sectional vice chairs on the Membership Committee continue to provide support to the clubs that have fewer than 25 members.
3. Wolf notified the board that the Membership Development Group continues to respond to club issues and provided information regarding specific concerns.
4. Wolf provided an update on the Aspire program.

F. ISU Representative

1. Horen reviewed the Olympic Team Manager Selection Procedures and explained why the group doing the selections isn't the International Officials Committee (IOC), which is due to conflicts of interest by the members of the IOC. Razzano then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to approve the Games Staff Selection Procedures: Team Managers/Technical Advisors for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games for presentation to the USOPC for final approval (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent).

2. Horen reviewed the 2020 ISU Four Continents Championships and the results for Team USA. Auxier announced Team USA has earned 35 medals at senior international events (12 of them gold), 14 international medals at the junior international level (six of them gold), and six international synchronized medals. Auxier also focused on specific results of some of the younger athletes.
3. Horen notified the board that the composition of the International Committee Management Subcommittee (ICMS) is being reviewed, and a proposal will be presented soon.
4. Horen informed the board that we have received the preliminary proposals for the ISU Congress. The final proposals will be published on April 1 along with the recommendations of the ISU Council and/or

ISU technical committees. Horen then reviewed a few of the proposals. Raith notified the board that he can email the draft proposals to any board member who is interested.

5. On further ISU matters, Raith reported that he, Cammett and Horen met with ISU Vice President Alexander Lakernik at the Grand Prix Final to discuss the terminology used to define conflicts of interest for officials (ISU Communication No. 2265). Raith followed up with a printed letter at the recent ISU Four Continents Championships and has been informed that it is on the agenda for the ISU Council meeting in March.
6. Raith informed the board that U.S. Figure Skating is looking at hosting the 2024 ISU World Figure Skating Championships in the United States, as well as Four Continents and the World Synchronized Championships (one in 2023 and the other in 2025). Raith also notified the board that the ISU is considering confirming the locations of championships further in advance, and explained how this might affect the work of the Events Advisory Board.
7. Raith announced that the Olympic Channel has agreed to broadcast portions of the 2020 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships on a slight delay. The full event will be live on NBC Sports Gold.
8. Raith notified the board that U.S. Figure Skating will submit its calendar of international events for next season to the ISU by March 1. He reported that the Philadelphia Summer Championships will again host singles events. Lake Placid will again host ice dance events. Cranberry and Middle Atlantic will host pairs events for the first time, and the California Cup will host a synchronized competition again.
9. Raith announced that Didier Gailhaguet has resigned as the head of the French Skating Federation, and there are currently four candidates to replace him, with elections set for March 14.

II. Executive Directors Report

- A. Raith provided information on the roll out of the new website, and confirmed that feedback continues to be reviewed and addressed.
- B. Raith provided an update on the 100th Anniversary project and discussed next steps, which will include holding phone interviews with select board members. Wolf, Cammett, Allison Scott, Amber Corwin, Carolina Zhang and, hopefully, Sean Rabbitt will be the members of a new working group for the next steps that will be presented to the Board of Directors in April and May.
- C. Raith provided information on music rights.

<3:30 p.m. CT – Nemier and Perreault left the meeting>

- D. Raith announced that we received a \$25,000 donation to establish a fund to support synchronized skating, and there are discussions to coordinate ways to increase the monies within that fund.
- E. Raith informed the board that the ISI executive committee sent a letter at the end of November agreeing to support SafeSport. Raith then reviewed details from the letter, and he will follow up with the ISI on its implementation.
- F. Raith reviewed the schedule for the 2020 Governing Council meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, which will include a more extensive board meeting on Sunday morning.

III. New Business – None

IV. Closing Announcements and Adjournment

The next business meeting of the board will be via conference call on Monday, March 9, 2020, at 8 p.m. ET.

Meeting concluded at 3:50 p.m. CT

Submitted,



Gretchen Bonnie, Secretary