

U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors

Conference Call Agenda – FINAL

Monday, May 11, 2020; 8:00 p.m. ET

Via ZOOM Conference:

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of April 27 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes and ROA
5. Governing Council Update
 - a. General
 - b. RFA/Isolations/New Business updates
 - c. Meeting Agenda/Procedures
 - d. Sectional Caucuses/Vice President Reports (Eastern, Midwestern, Pacific Coast)
 - e. Other
6. Treasurer's Report (including Q3 financials)
7. Group Coordinator Reports
 - a. Athlete Services
 - b. AAC
 - c. Coaches
 - d. Membership Development
 - e. Administrative/Legal
 1. Executive Session – Stipulated Grievance
 - f. Technical and Officials
 - g. International
 1. Athlete Releases
8. Executive Director's Report
9. New Business
10. Executive Session
11. Next meeting – Board of Directors, Monday, May 18, 2020, 8:00 p.m. ET - Via ZOOM Video Conference

**U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors
Via Zoom Video Conference
Monday, May 11, 2020; 8 p.m. EDT**

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, Bobby Martin, Colin McManus (non-voting athlete), Heather Nemier, Richard Perez, David Raith (Executive Director), Douglas Razzano, Karen Terry Perreault, Alan Wolf

Guests

Juliet Newcomer, Kelly Vogtner

I. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting

- A. Cammett welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- B. Bonnie took roll call, and a quorum was confirmed.
- C. The agenda was adopted as amended.
- D. The April 27, 2020, minutes were approved as presented.
- E. The April 27, 2020, report of action was approved as presented.

II. Treasurer's Report/Budget Overview (Goldstein)

- A. Goldstein reviewed the third quarter actuals and key items.
- B. Goldstein notified the board that he and Chief Financial Officer Mario Rede are constantly monitoring the organization's financials in regard to the current state of the economy.
- C. Goldstein announced that the estate of the late Valerie Powell, a long time U.S. Figure Skating employee, left approximately \$90,000 to the Memorial Fund.

<8:08 p.m. EDT – Goldstein left the meeting>

III. Governing Council Update

- A. Raith reviewed the procedures for the Candidates Forum.
- B. The board again reviewed the isolations and new business items that were properly submitted by the April 24 deadline and reviewed on their April 27 call.
 1. Perez reviewed the changes to Item 304 and then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to rescind the Board of Directors action on **Item 304 (page 97, Meeting Book)** taken on April 6, 2020, and refer the item back to the Competitions Committee. (See May 11 Report of Action for full details.) (13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent)

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2. Perreault reviewed the changes to Item 401 and then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to rescind the Board of Directors action on **Item 401 (page 108, Meeting Book)** taken on April 6, 2020, and approve the proposed amendments. (See May 11 Report of Action for full details.) (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent)

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3. Horen reviewed the changes to Item 501 and then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to rescind the Board of Directors action on **Item 501 (pages 109-110, Meeting Book)** taken on April 6, 2020, and approve the proposed amendments. (See May 11 Report of Action for full details.) (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent)

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4. Goldman reviewed the changes to Item 21 and then made the following motion:

<Request for Action> to rescind the Board of Directors action on **Item 21 (page 112, Meeting Book)** taken on Oct. 7, 2019, and approve the proposed amendments. (See May 11 Report of Action for full details.) (14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent)

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- C. Raith reviewed the Governing Council business meeting agenda and procedures for the meeting via video conference. Ladwig announced that the Athletes Advisory Committee will offer a Kahoot game after the

conclusion of the Governing Council business meeting and will also have an online auction. Vogtner provided additional details about the information that will be sent to delegates and attendees in advance; and Engel and Nemier reviewed their experiences with Simply Voting, the online voting system to be used at Governing Council; both have had positive experiences.

- D. Vogtner reviewed the plans for the sectional caucuses, and then the vice presidents gave the following reports.
1. Eastern Vice President Nemier reported that the three vice presidents have met with Vogtner and Kathy Dreves to review the slides for the sectional caucuses. Nemier also notified the board that they will be asking delegates and those with proxies to have two devices available so they can connect to the meeting with one and vote with the other. Nemier also informed the board that the vice presidents agreed not to have speakers at the sectional caucuses so the focus can be on the Nominating Committee elections and recognizing the honorees. Finally, Nemier announced that there will be a virtual gala for the benefit of Figure Skating in Harlem on Thursday, and the link is available on the Eastern Section Facebook page.
 2. Midwestern Vice President Cutler confirmed that all three vice presidents agree on the plans for the sectional caucuses and reported that one of the Nominating Committee candidates has sent a letter to delegates and athletes, so she is following up on that.
 3. Pacific Coast Vice President Engel concurred that all three sectional caucuses will be in alignment. Engel then notified the board that at least two rinks in the Southwest Pacific Region are closing, and there is a third rink in the region that is in danger of closing due to the current economic situation.
- E. Raith thanked Legal Counsel Tom James and Parliamentarian Leonard Young for their help with this new format, and stressed the need to focus on the business items.

<9:16 p.m. EDT – Vogtner left the meeting>

IV. Group Coordinator Reports

A. Athlete Services

Goldman notified the board that the ISU posted the levels of difficulty and scale of values for singles and pairs today, and those are still being reviewed.

B. Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC)

Ladwig reported that he held a recent AAC call and is preparing for Governing Council.

C. Coaches

1. Fowler-Binder notified the board that the PSA is having their virtual summit online next week, and there are more than 600 people registered. Fowler-Binder also reported that the PSA will be announcing awards next Thursday in a virtual awards celebration.
2. Martin reported that he has been enjoying the elite coaches webinars each Thursday. Martin stated that he thinks the pandemic is demonstrating the importance of off-ice training and could affect how ice is utilized once rinks reopened. Martin also reported that return-to-play remains the biggest issue right now.

D. Membership Development

1. Wolf announced that total regular membership is down just over 2 percent, and Learn to Skate USA membership is down approximately 6 percent.
2. Wolf notified the board that the *Returning to the Rinks* guide has been posted online, and feedback has been positive.
3. Wolf reviewed the Governing Council Club Education Series, which started Wednesday, April 29, and consists of four two-hour meetings via video conference, held on consecutive Wednesdays.

E. Administrative/Legal

Perreault provided an update on SafeSport complaints and grievance matters.

<Executive Session> – Grievance Matters

F. Technical and Officials

Perez notified the board that the registration dates for the 2020 U.S. Collegiate Figure Skating Championships will be June 1 to July 1 instead of May 15 to June 15. The competition announcement has been updated with those dates and approved by the appropriate regional and sectional vice chairs on the Competitions Committee, and the chair of the Competitions Committee.

G. International

1. Horen informed the board that June 15 and Aug. 1 are the deadlines for making decisions about the Junior Grand Prix and Grand Prix of Figure Skating events, respectively, and Raith is on the ISU working group to make those decisions.
2. Raith reviewed three requests to release specific athletes. The board agreed the current athlete release policy will be followed in all cases.

V. Executive Director's Report

- A. Raith notified the board that the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee is reviewing closely its staffing and budget due to the postponement of the Tokyo Olympics and the pandemic.
- B. Raith notified the board that the U.S. Center for SafeSport provided a training session to all U.S. Figure Skating staff via Zoom last Wednesday (May 6).
- C. Raith reported that Susi Wehrli McLaughlin is leading the group that is working on the return plan for programs and disciplines, following up on the *Returning to the Rinks* guide, and Bob Dunlop is leading the group working on a return plan for competitions.
- D. Raith informed the board that Cammett and Wolf recently saw a presentation on the 100th Anniversary planning, and there will be a presentation to the full board next week.
- E. Raith discussed the operations for the ISU working group that has been assembled to assess the feasibility of holding various international competitions this season.

VI. New Business

Cammett recognized outgoing board members Richard Perez, Alan Wolf, Christine Fowler-Binder, Douglas Razzano and Mark Ladwig.

<10:22 p.m. – Newcomer and Raith left the meeting>

VII. Executive Session

<reviewed and supported the Compensation Committee's recommendations regarding the Executive Director for the past season>

The next business meeting of the board will be Monday, May 18, at 8 p.m. ET, via Zoom video conference.

Meeting concluded at 10:59 p.m. EDT

Submitted,



Gretchen Bonnie, Secretary