



**Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA
Executive Board of Directors Meeting
August 7, 2012**

7:00 – 10:00pm EST

Present: Deb Armento, Ralph Armento, Gregg Baumgarten, Mike Burns, Barbara Chambers, Tommy Chasanoff, Paul DePace, Jessica Galli, Phil Galli, Darlene Hunter (joined at 7:30pm), Denise Hutchins

Absent: Cindy Housner, Glen O'Sullivan

1. Call to order by Barbara Chambers, Chair

2. July 10, 2012 Minutes: Denise moved to pass the July 2012 minutes. Tommy 2nd. Motion carried.

3. Chair's Report: Barbara Chambers reported.

- a. **National Delegates Assembly:** Ralph is trying to put together a packet of information to send out ASAP. He confirmed that the meeting will take place at the Kahler Grand hotel in Rochester, MN from Thursday, October 11 through Sunday, October 14. There are two airports that attendees can choose from. One airport is in Rochester and the other is in Minneapolis. Minneapolis is approximately 1 hour 15 minutes from Rochester. Ralph said there is a shuttle service that drives between Minneapolis airport and the city of Rochester. The registration cost is projected to be \$70. This fee will include a Friday night Meet and Greet, afternoon break food and beverage, Saturday evening Hall of Fame dinner ticket, a continental breakfast on Sunday morning, and a complimentary WASUSA gift. Ralph has also negotiated a discounted hot breakfast on Friday and Saturday morning for \$7.95 for anyone interested. Paul motioned to approve the \$70 registration cost for the 2012 NDA. Gregg 2nd. Motion carried. Ralph and Barb asked the group if they had any concerns with the tentative schedule presented on the last call. The consensus was that the schedule would work for everyone.
- b. **Hall of Fame:** Barb sent a ballot to all members of the WASUSA Board. The ballot will also be sent to Hall of Fame inductees. At the last meeting, the idea of retiring names of nominees that have been on the nominated list for some time. Barb asked if anyone had an opinion on retiring any of the names. Gregg compared this situation to the Baseball Hall of Fame and he noted that the Baseball Hall of Fame will retire names after five years if an individual has not been inducted. Barb will write an addition for the Policies and Procedures regarding this issue. Phil motioned to remove all nominees from the candidate list who have been on the list for more than five years with a grandfather clause that if an individual is nominated again the nomination would stand. Mike 2nd. Motion carried. Jessie mentioned that she and Darlene were working on a Hall of Fame nomination form that could be easily filled in by anyone who wants to nominate individuals. They will send the completed form to the Board this week.
- c. **Office Manager Contract:** Barb has started working on a new contract for Ralph as well as a self-evaluation that Ralph will complete. She will share this information with Denise and Jessie for feedback.
- d. **Bylaw Change:** Barb has written a Bylaw amendment to rename the Immediate Past-Chair position on the Board of Directors. She said the original intent for the creation of this position was to have Paul DePace remain on the Board due to his involvement in IWAS and at the USOC. If the Bylaws remain the same, if Barb does not remain Chair then she would become the Immediate Past-Chair and Paul would no longer be on the Board. Barb has proposed two titles the position could be named. She also listed the duties of this position and Phil added to her duties list. This amendment will be presented at the NDA.

4. Immediate Past Chair's Report: Paul DePace reported.

- a. **Gilbane Building Company & NJDC:** Paul asked about the participation of Gilbane employees at NJDC. Gregg reported that there were three or four volunteers from the company at the event. Additionally, he said the local branch declined to sponsor the event.
- b. **MOU with US Fencing:** Ralph spoke with US Fencing but with the upcoming Paralympic Games so near, US Fencing has not had a chance to sign or discuss the agreement anymore with Ralph and Paul.
- c. **2012 IWAS Jr. World Games:** Paul attended the Games that comprised of 12 nations and 128 athletes. He said there was strong representation of CP athletes. The Puerto Rican delegation attended the Games to be present for the flag passing ceremony to the 2013 Games.



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- d. **USOC Ralph Lauren Issue:** Paul was contacted by Charlie Huebner from US Paralympics asking for him to reach out to his local politicians about this issue. Paul did so and had good conversation with those he spoke with.
 - e. **Amputee Football:** Paul said that IWAS may get more involved in this sport at the international level. This sport is popular in Europe.
 - f. **Electric Wheelchair Hockey:** Paul said this sport is currently an IWAS sport but is not overly popular. He said here in the US the sport is commonly called Power Soccer. IWAS would like to better support and promote this sport in the future.
 - g. **IWASF Executive Director:** The current Executive Director has chosen to step down from her paid position. Paul said IWAS is trying to find her a volunteer role within the organization to keep her involved as she is a valuable resource to the organization.
 - h. **Stoke Mandeville Anniversary:** A torch will be lit in Stoke-Mandeville on August 28th to commemorate the anniversary of the event.
5. **Vice Chair's Report:** Denise Hutchins reported.
- a. **2012 Paralympic Games:** Denise will be heading to London for the Paralympic Games. She will be working as a Track and Field classifier.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Mike Burns reported. Entries for NDA were discussed. Barb said that she would like for committee members and members of NGBs to be supported for NDA as they have been in the past. Phil said that last year WTFUSA offered its Board members \$250 for travel and covered ½ of room cost per night of the NDA. Phil and Barb will work together to agree on the right amount of support to be offered this year.
7. **Office Report:** Ralph Armento reported
- a. **RPO Proposal:** Ralph expressed his concern with the proposal and the lack of understanding by some individuals. Ralph said he would like the proposal to be amended so that Ohio is included in the Northeast Region. Ralph has spoken with Ohio and they agree that they would like to be in the Northeast Region as a relationship has already been formed between key players in each area. Phil suggested that the RPO Proposal be sent one more time to the RSO representatives to ensure they have been educated on the topic. Additionally, a discussion should be had between any parties that want to participate. A discussion was had about voting and how voting rights would need to change if this proposal passed. Ralph has concerns that the proposal will move the power from regions to clubs.
 - b. **USATF National Junior Disability Championships:** Ralph received an announcement for the USATF National Junior Disability Championships. He feels it's important for WASUSA to copyright NJDC.
 - c. **Level 1-3 Criteria:** Ralph sent out an updated document with Level 1-3 criteria that includes criteria for all sports. This document will be shared at NDA.
8. **Committee Reports**
- a. **Junior Committee:** Deb Armento reported.
 - i. **NJDC:** Debbie would like to thank Lane Gram, Nina, her committee and all of the volunteers for all of their hard work and support for the NJDC. Debbie reported that there was a variety of disabilities included in the event. Two sport clinics were offered: field and sit-volleyball. Award winners have been posted on the website and on Facebook. Many scholarships were awarded to attendees including 19 SWAA scholarships and 13 WASUSA scholarships. A classification clinic was held at NJDC this year. Debbie will present a full report at the NDA.



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ii. **2013 NJDC:** Representatives from the LOC attended the 2012 NJDC. Debbie has been asked to get a quote from Half Mile Timing for both the 2013 NJDC and the 2014 NJDC. Debbie has begun working with the 2013 LOC on site visits and other logistics.

b. **International Competition:** Barb said there is a lot of interest in the 2013 IWAS Jr. World Games. Barb would like to send out a formal application in September. Jessie will work with Barb on this as well as on standards.

c. **STCs and NGBs:**

i. **STCs:**

1. **Powerlifting:** No report given.

2. **Table Tennis:** Jennifer Johnson submitted report electronically. Jennifer reported that once the WASUSA recipients for the classification seminar are confirmed as participants a check can be sent to the designated organizers to reduce their costs. The seminar has been posted on the iptt-ptt website. The Mike Dempsey International Memorial Tournament is all set to happen Nov. 26 to Dec. 3 in San Diego. Entry information is available at www.ipttc.org click on calendar. The classification is also scheduled to happen at that time too. Andre Scott is the Tournament Director.

3. **Archery:** No report given.

4. **Swimming:** Glen O'Sullivan reported. Glen will begin working on compiling and recording records that were broken at NJDC. Due to retiring all the records last year, all 1st place finishers in their class and age group established a new record. Glen has looked into Hy-Tek software pricing. He would like to purchase Meet Manager 4.0 and Team Manager 7.0. He wants Team Manager to make putting entries together easier. Team Manager 7 is \$296.25 and Meet Manager 4 is \$371.25 plus \$250/year depending on the licensing option. He has an email out to Queenie Nichols as to what license option she uses at the Can-AM swim meets. Glen would like to make a motion to purchase the Hy-Tek software. He will wait to purchase both products until after hearing back from Queenie. **Phil motioned to approve the purchase of the Hy-Tek software and the licensing fee not to exceed \$1000 to be paid out of the swimming fund. Denise 2nd. Motion carried.** The Board would like Glen to come back to the Board with a final total after the purchase.

ii. **NGB's**

1. **Track and Field:** Phil Galli reported. Phil said that WTFUSA worked with the WASUSA office to process all Level 3 meet records prior to NJDC and will be able to publish a good records file by NDA with a little help. Phil is working with a lawyer in Illinois to open the doors for Illinois athletes in high school to participate on their swimming and track and field teams. Phil will be deposed this month. He will receive a fee for this service, which is being donated to WTFUSA. WTFUSA is preparing to send an e-mail to the membership asking for potential rule changes for 2013 and they process those requests after returning from London. Once those changes are submitted, they will be shared with the Junior Committee for comments and feedback. Phil and others have completed the Track and Field Officials course and they are in the test phase. They should have all test results back by the end of Sept. and they are working with US Paralympics to implement in January of 2013. Phil said that WTFUSA is very proud of all WASUSA/WTFUSA members who made the 2012 Paralympic team.

d. **RSOs:** No report given.

e. **Athlete Advisory:** No report given.

9. **Old Business**

a. **Website:** Barb asked about the status of the website. Jessie asked once again for the Board to take a look at the new website and provide feedback. It was suggested the new website be launched before Jessie and Darlene



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leave for London. Phil would prefer the website launch after London because he is more familiar with the current website and he will be updating it while Darlene and Jessie are at the Games.

- b. **Strategic Planning Committee:** No report given.

10. New Business

- a. **Nominating Committee:** Debbie asked if a Nominating Committee had been established. Barb said one had not been created. Debbie will work on this. The chair position and STC position are up for reelection. Additionally, a member-at-large position is vacant and needs to be filled. Ralph would like for all candidates to submit both a resume and a position paper.

11. Next Meeting: September 12, 2012 – 7pm EST