

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 5th, 2016

Next Planned Meeting: January 9th, 2017

Present:

Dave Mengyan – Commissioner
Eric Ingram – President
Emily Shryock – 2nd Vice-President
Michael Klonowski – Secretary
Phyllis Palma – Head of Classification
Bob Lopez – Referee Representative
Kevin Crombie – 1st Vice-President

Absent:

Debrah Whitehurst – Treasurer

Review:

- Review and acceptance of prior meeting's minutes

Commissioner's Report:

- Pacific Sectional has been confirmed – Balboa Park, San Diego, CA – March 17-19, 2017
- Working to resolve Atlantic South Regional Location
- Continuing to work with 2nd Vice-President about reaching out to additional sponsors
- Will attempt to reach out to RACs more frequently. Would like to hear more from RACs and their concerns, during the season.
- ***Action Item*** Will reach out to Graphic Designer for new website design
- *** Action Item*** Working with VP2 - Looking into reports of individual harassment within the league. Will assess Code of Conduct, and update. Will assess need for investigation/process for receiving reports of harassment.
- ***Action Item*** Create Job Description for Board Position

President's Report:

- ***Action Item*** We are going to start making transitional documents for all positions on the board – Will be created by February 1st. Will help prevent “brain drain” when transitions occur between board representatives.
- We would like to establish a USQRA Storefront, online to sell USQRA items – Need to create a connection from website via single button. Will coordinate with Treasurer/Commissioner.
- We would like to set up an external site for donations
- We would also like to set up online location for fees/team dues – Streamline finances for the USQRA

- *****Action Item***** Will be tracking Action Items to increase effectiveness of Board
- *****Action Item***** Create Job Description for Board Position

1st Vice-President's Report:

- *****Action Item***** Draft for new clinic application for next meeting
- *****Action Item***** Create Job Description for Board Position

2nd Vice-President's Report:

- Attended IWRF Annual Meeting
 - Results of Voting:
 - Australia Proposal for video review of flagrant foul – Failed
 - All other proposals withdrawn:
 - Separate zone proposal withdrawn after IWRF proposed increased ability of South American teams to have sanctioned tournaments, by limiting sanctioning requirements
 - USA Proposal withdrawn after IWRF stated that it is creating process for former players to be trained as classifiers and placed on classification panels
 - IWRF Treasurer= Cathy Cadieux CAN
 - Member at Large= Richard Allcroft GB
 - Member at Large= Gary Pate USA
 - Potential Applications of IWRF practices to USQRA
 - IWRF has 4 year plan – with annual updates – how do we apply that to USQRA – more concrete plan with annual goals
 - Have skill matrix for board – look outside of current staffing and looking for attributes in additional people – Allows people that are looking for positions, from our membership to see if their skills match up with needs of the board
 - Listed what is expected of IWRF and of individual teams
 - Reusing Rugby Chairs and sending to developmental teams or trialing new types of chairs with players
 - Competition committee is redoing bid process for competitions – will take notes from what they are doing – how do we use/borrow strategies
 - Many teams, internationally, have joined up with local able-bodied rugby – promote here in the US?
 - Wheelchair rugby variants – USAWR is contributing to conversations – Ex. In Europe, there are Wheelchair Rugby Leagues, which are not Paralympic Wheelchair Rugby. Do those leagues get added or excluded to current IWRF? It is currently in a working group, which will release findings at next annual meetings

- Will completely redesign world ranking system
- Changing requirements for creating “sanctioned tournaments” Make it easier for developmental teams to have sanctioned tourneys.
- 24 teams attended of 29.
- ***Action Item*** Continuing to reach out to sponsors for USQRA
- Promo video – created at Metal and Muscle – lots of game footage. 10-12 interviews, including board members.
- ***Action Item*** Working with Commissioner - Looking into reports of individual harassment within the league. Will assess Code of Conduct, and update. Will assess need for investigation/process for receiving reports of harassment.
- ***Action Item*** Create Job Description for Board Position

Secretary’s Report:

- ***Action Item*** Rescheduling the C/B discussion – December 11th
- ***Action Item*** Posting scores ASAP
- ***Action Item*** Increasing timeliness of Board Minutes
- ***Action Item*** Will assess if possible to limit extraneous files on current USQRA website, to help increase ability to navigate easily
- ***Action Item*** Start requesting AGM Proposals – Form for proposals
- ***Action Item*** Re-connecting with USAWR for increased future collaboration
- ***Action Item*** Draft Team Letters
- ***Action Item*** Create Job Description for Board Position

Treasurer’s Report:

Deferred at this time

- ***Action Item*** Create Job Description for Board Position

Classifiers’ Report:

- Classifier’s Clinic at West Palm Beach – 2-3 folks
- Will have classification at Knock n’ Roll and Demolition Derby
- Getting internationals their USQRA cards – working through ranks
- 12 new players classed, this past weekend – Metal and Muscle – Houston – 30 new players for the year

Referees’ Report:

- Single anti-tipper is still legal in USQRA, however, concerns came up at U of A tournament. IWRP rules have been updated, however, USQRA players are, generally, unsponsored, and may not be able to afford new chair with 2 anti-tippers
- With contact before the whistle being eliminated, we need to be cognizant of players/staff working on equipment on court. Referees will remind players at tournaments that need to maintain space for safety for equipment.

- *****Action Item*****Will email teams, FCP and FB.