

# USOA Underwater Hockey Committee Agenda

Sunday, December 29, 2024

8-9:30pm (EDT), 7-8:30pm (CDT), 6-7:30pm (MDT), 5-6:30pm (PDT)

## Zoom Meeting:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82094751113?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82094751113?pwd=NVhDYUxXK3ISUkE2OUdUUWwwcUZ3dz09)

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Meeting ID: 820 9475 1113

## UWH Committee Members:

Beven McWilliams, Chair(2023-2025)

Jacqui West, Vice Chair (2023-2025)

Molly Banks, Secretary(2024-2026)

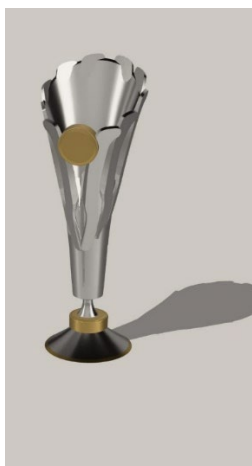
Eric Myers, Financial Secretary (2023-2025)

Jesse Hocking, Member at Large (2024-2026)

Paul Byrne, Member at Large (2023-2025)

Michael Riccitelli, Member at Large (2024-2026)

1. Call to order **5:13**
  - a. Committee members present: **Beven, Paul, Jacqui, Michael, Eric**
  - b. Non-committee members present: Carol, Chad, Casey, Don M, John K, Kim**
  - c. Approval of agenda (1 min) Moved + Approved
2. Discussion and approval of November minutes (1 min) Moved + Approved
3. National Trophy Submissions and discussion designs:
  - a. Seattle – **Chad – podium style trophy idea**
  - b. Oregon – **Micheal's contact, modular style, 20 years on each side – top piece can be taken home. Micheal to make sketch of idea**
  - c. San Diego – **Payton – cup idea**



- d. Tom Marose – glass maker and previous trophy designer to be possibly reached out to**

4. Financial secretary/Treasurer's report - Eric Myers/Melody (3 min):
  - a. Total balance: Dev Fund Summary as of November 30 \$38,560.79
    - i. Draft for how to request funds from the committee
      1. Requesting formal process
        - Either written or verbal
        - Statement of needs/products/descriptions
        - Use of funds
        - How it would benefit USOA
        - Who will benefit from the funding request
        - Help with insurance?
        - Some acknowledgements of USOA funding
        - etc
      2. USOA swag/drip/tchotchke's discussion: Using funds for items at nationals. USOA appreciation.
5. Directors reports (max 30 min):
  - a. **Rules Director** - Don Mathews (5 min):
    - i. Version 13 of the rules should be published around February
      1. not a lot of changes in the rules
    - ii. Version 14 will have rule request considered along with
      1. Equipment issues will be addressed on what is safe and not safe
      2. Corner rules
  - b. **Referee Director** - John Kulsa (5 min):
    - i. Working with Eric to get first wave of refs for Denver set.
    - ii. Reaching out for interest for USA Worlds refs.
      1. Need to be prequalified before the tournament.
        - Currently 4 active Level III refs – any additional refs looking to be Level III will need to be certified and then added to the list. To be discussed more in the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> and list must be turned in sometime in Jan/Feb.
    - iii. Addressed new rule: electronic communication from coaches to players is not allowed. Voting in progress – then to national federations. – to be discussed further in next meeting
  - c. **Nationals Team Coordinator** - Helene Soleille (5 min): not present  
Women's Masters appointed Darryl Brambilla from Canada to coach masters' women.
    1. Entry opens on the 31<sup>st</sup> of 2025 and closes at the end of March 2025
    2. USOA to reach out to coaches on this update

- d. **Youth Development Director** - Agnes Debrunner (5 min): not present
  - i. under 24 boys sent a questionnaire for interest for players and coaches for Quebec City, collecting responses now.
- di. **Competitions Director** - Eric Straily (5 min): not present
  - i. Inter-Regional survey report
    - 1. Discuss next meeting: winning teams need to decide if they're sending 1 or 2 teams next year.
  - ii. BAA Jan 24-26
  - iii. OCC's in March 8-9
  - iv. Florida Cup Apr 26-27 (open to everyone but has to be a FL team to win cup)
- dii. **Regional Directors:**
  - i. Northwest - Kim Riccitelli (2 min):
    - 1. Local small events with Canada
    - 2. Details were sent from Kim about updates and history of regional trainings, events, and processes that PNW has implemented for UWH
    - 3. Possible PNW event in April/May
  - ii. Southwest- Casey Nakamura (2 min):
    - 1. PCCS open for bids. In September- October
      - Possibly SoCal, Vegas or Phoenix pools
    - 2. "The OC Cup"(Irvine, CA) tournament set for March 8-9.
      - Format like PCC's – Club tournament – not restricted to only California teams
    - 3. LA has new pool actually in LA(Echo Park)
      - Saturday morning practices are going on now
    - 4. San Diego planning Pre-Nationals potluck at the Plunge (May 2025)
    - 5. The Plunge in May – being reviewed currently
  - iii. Inland - Cheryl Russell (2 min) : not present
  - iv. Northeast - Jenny Biener (2 min): not present
    - 1. Region needs help with player involvement
    - 2. Assisting prospective club leader in Baltimore
  - v. Southeast- Nicole Mazouch (2 min): not present
    - 1. Lucky's Florida State Championship. Orlando April 26-27.  
Open for anyone, but to get the cup it must be a Florida Team.

Regional Director positions with term limits?

- a. Potential options:

- i. Two 2-year term limits... but if there still is a vacancy, the term can continue.
  - b. Define “regional director” to make it easier to fill vacancies.
    - i. In progress (get write ups from current regional directors– outlining what they do).
    - ii. Regional director call potentially happening or subcommittee.
- 6. Call for Nationals bids (2 min)
  - a. National bids-
    - i. issues: University pools can’t book pools until after swimming schedules are released (Feb/March)
    - ii. Possible Milwaukee
      - 1. loons may help support
      - 2. Dates (looking at early June as possibility)
    - iii. Denver - back-up location
      - 1. June 20-22
  - b. May send out call for bids for 2025 ACCs and PCCs also
- 7. CMAS 2025 World Qualifiers Update (5 min)
  - a. If anyone is interested in possibly submitting a bid for the US, please contact Creedon and Beven.
  - b. Discussion to host worlds 2027. Needs tremendous support. What is timeline for bids? Jesse will find out. What makes a good city?
    - i. Jesse will send out bid forms he found
    - ii. Need to confirm that hosting worlds 2027 will guarantee a spot in the tournament.
  - c. Redefine what the National team’s coordinator does.
    - i. Still in progress
- 8. Old business (3 min):
  - a. Directors position updates (2 min)
  - b. Development, Coaching, Events positions need to be filled at CMAS level
    - i. Licensing coaching possible – look for interest on being on the board – position has been open for years.
- 9. Question about how we can define what a club is, what is a club player, etc.
  - a. UWH Committee can write things up and then send the proposed changes to USOA for an official vote for the 2025 Annual Meeting
  - b. Needs to get proposed changes before September 2025. Unless a special meeting can be called.
  - c. Michael, Jesse, Beven, Molly, see if special meeting can be called to get criteria for nationals 2025. Do the research and legwork for proposal.
  - d. Big picture hockey events, competition standards, club rules, criteria for high

level events. What are the issues we can solve.

#### **10. Next meeting will be discussed**

##### **Action Items:**

- *Continue discussion in the subcommittee for definition of clubs/players.*
- *Confirm with CMAS that hosting Worlds 2027 will guarantee a spot in the tournament.*
- *Put on hold - Set up "Nitty Gritty Subcommittee" for defining Regional Directors & what they do until "club" sub-committee defines roles further as needed.*
- *Put on hold - Redefine what the National team's coordinator does.*

##### **Upcoming Events:**

- BAA- Denver- January 24-26
- Lucky Meisenheimer Florida Cup- Orlando- April 26-27
- Orange County Cup, Irvine, Ca - March 8-9
- Nationals Proposed weekend June 20th-22

Meeting Adjourned: 6:25 pm (PST)