

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: June 1, 2023

Next Planned Meeting: July 6, 2023

Present:

- Bob Lopez – Commissioner
- Marianne Duda – Head of Referees
- Sid Christain – Treasurer
- Dan Caldwell – Secretary
- Jen Allred – Lakeshore/USAWR
- Mary Kiolbasa – Classifier
- Daniel Curtis – VP2
- Amy Bohn – Head of Classification
- Dr. Michael Cottingham – VP1

Absent:

- Noah Currier – President
- Mike Klonowski – Executive Director
- Kerin Banfield – Referee Representative

Lakeshore/USAWR (Jen Allred):

- Just finished camp with Columbia – 8 days
- Thanks to Bob for being there
- Another camp coming up in 2 weeks with Canada
- Selection camp will be early December. They will put out some of the dates during the AGM to have the team reps spread the word about those dates.

Classifiers (Mary Kiolbasa & Amy Bohn):

- Mary:
 - When the safety committee met, they decided to work on 2 different workflows. They are working on the injury one first, then will work on concussions.
 - The workflows will be based on a questionnaire, which would make it easy to turn in as a report and explain why decisions were made.
- Amy:
 - Trying to work on getting the structure back and get some educational pieces together
 - AGM report is almost done and will be sent in before midnight

Referees (Marianne Duda):

- Will get AGM report to Dan by tomorrow afternoon
- Received grant money – very appreciative

- Next session of online clinics to begin soon
- Working on getting the refs secured for low point tournaments – using a new scheduling platform so getting their feet wet
- Has reached out to others regarding clinics and am working on getting dates back
- Treating Low Point Nationals as any other National tournament

Secretary (Dan Caldwell):

- Low Point registration closes today
- In the process of getting the teams set up and getting the players on to the teams
- Low Point USA is looking at doing some independent fundraising – will work with Project Kicks where you set up boxes to collect used athletic shoes and they send them to places that need them or recycle the rubber to make new items (such as rubberized basketball courts). This is to raise money to allow Low Point to participate in something in 2024
- AGM is next weekend
 - Have received a few reports and needs all of them ASAP so we can get the package together
 - Question about verbal reports
 - You do not need to read your report verbatim, you can summarize as the report is there for them to read
 - Spoke with Mike C. about possibly changing the order of events – elections prior to voting on the proposals
 - Everyone thought that was a great idea
 - Reports, elections, voting on proposals, discussion
 - Amy asked if we can also set up a date to work on getting dates on the calendar for the next season
 - Jen said she was on a call recently that elections went first and there was some confusion about when those jobs became effective: beginning of the call, at the end of the meeting, a set date – Bob suggested making it clear and choosing a certain date – elections become effective at the conclusion of the meeting.
 - Daniel asked about the elections – have Deborah and Sarah submitted anything that speaks to their qualifications or skills? We have done videos on the past. Dan said both have turned in applications and resumes. Mike C. said to make sure they both are expecting to speak
 - Dan would like to get the package together by mid-week next week. Anything that anyone would like added?
 - Daniel asked if there was any low point numbers we could share or an update. Dan said he could ask Steve to write a report about that.

Commissioner (Bob Lopez):

- 2024 Nationals Bids
 - Dan, Mike C. and Bob visited Tampa a few weeks ago

- Spoke to Noah earlier today and they are still working on a date that we can get to Oscar Mike to visit
 - Currently the date they have available is June 13th, but Noah will reach out to them to try to get a date next week on the calendar
- Semi-finals – one person committed and once we get Nationals set he will work on getting the rest set
- AGM
 - Put in 3 proposals, all related to fees
- Will be working with Dan this summer to get sanctioning documents together

VP1 (Dr. Michael Cottingham):

- When going through the proposals on the AGM, he will briefly (or allow the author if they are on the call) explain, go through the pros and cons.
 - Do we have a maximum amount of time? Would prefer to keep under 2 minutes.
- Last meeting we proposed to pass the two recommendations the safety committee put forth (AED and Minors policies) – is there anywhere we need to include this info? Bob said that is something that would be included in the Sanctioning Paperwork.
 - Dan asked about the AED – since we may get some pushback, can the committee put together a resource on how you can acquire an AED? Mike C said that we can say that by the time registration opens we will be able to provide that information.

VP2 (Daniel Curtis):

- Drafted a letter in regards to Oscar Mike – should send out soon. Thinks there is value in sending out prior to the AGM. Sid said that he agrees sending it out prior is a good idea and might prevent some unnecessary chatter. Bob said that the monetary amount Noah provided needs to be updated and Noah has asked to have until tomorrow afternoon to proofread it. What is the best delivery method? Perhaps sending with the packet, but top and center of what is sent. It was discussed that the packet only goes to team reps and leadership. The proposals were sent to everyone. Bob thinks that is fine, but thinks the final package and agenda should just go to team reps and leadership.
 - Are we comfortable posting the letter on social? Mike C. said it could make things really messy. Dan said we can send it out to membership, but ask Noah if he would like to post it on social media. Daniel thinks mailing it to membership is best. Sid said he thinks the subject line is extremely important as well.
 - Marianne said she was not sure what any of this conversation was about, so Daniel gave a cliffs note version as to some of the feelings of the membership and that the letter was written to educate the membership on all the things that Oscar Mike has done for the league. Some of the perception is that Oscar Mike is buying the league and the letter is intended to clear up some of that muddy water.

- Mike C. said something we did last year was putting the proposals (perhaps one per day) on social media to begin some conversation. Daniel said he thinks that is the way we want to go.
- That would fall to Dan or Mike K. Dan said he just doesn't have the time or energy to do that right now. There are 13 proposals, we will pick 3 and Dan will get them posted. We will also post a link to the full list of proposals so they will have access to them.
- Sid said if there was a way to deliver the OM information in an organic way, it would greatly influence the receptiveness of the information. Perhaps as a thank you to Oscar Mike for what they have done for the league. Also, if it were to come up early in the AGM and get it on the record, that would be helpful, too.
- Wants to follow up regarding the fines due and if those who owed them had paid them in order to receive the grant – 2 teams still have not paid and therefore have not received their checks. Bob also pointed out that if they do not pay, they will not be eligible to vote at the AGM.
 - Who sends that? Dan will send that information to them. Akron and Chicago.

Treasurer (Sid Christain):

- Sent out financials
- Getting the insurance information to be shared at the AGM
- Made the deposit on the classifier database
 - Daniel let Mary & Amy know that if they have any issues with the database, please let the board know so as clients, we can address the issues, in order to help protect relationships

Miscellaneous:

- Amy asked if there was still a plan to have a retreat to work on the revisions of the bylaws and other league business.
 - It is something that everyone thinks is a good idea but need to work on a date.
 - Daniel suggested the possibility of tacking it on to the Low Point Nationals.
 - Daniel said perhaps we start with a shared doc and then have some deadline surrounding that, and then finalize those things at a retreat.
 - It is something that is going to need to be done from cover to cover.
 - Marianne said that when they redid their bylaws, it was done piece by piece.
 - Someone needs to take ownership of it and keep others on track.
 - Sid said one thing that is a huge hindrance is that the rules of play are intertwined. If we could extricate the rules of play and make a rule book and have a separate constitution and bylaws, that would be preferred.
 - Mary spoke of Slack and said it allows channels so if you are working on certain things you can have ongoing projects and someone in each channel can be in charge of keeping things on track. Jen said they use Teams for the same thing.
 - Jen said she would pass along the dates they have available so that if Lakeshore is somewhere we would like to use as landing pad for this, we can plan.

- In July we can talk about the different communications tools we can use to help make this happen. **Daniel will find a platform to use to work on this. We can lead off the July meeting with this item.