

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 8th, 2016

Next Planned Meeting: September 12th, 2016

Present:

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

Absent:

Debrah Whitehurst – Treasurer

Review:

- Review and acceptance of prior meeting's minutes

Classifier Report:

- Significant amount of interest for Chicago Classifier Clinic during Bear Brawl – students will attend, along with several classifier candidates
- Possibly 47 teams this upcoming season, with 4 new teams – Ft. Wayne, New York, Florida teams
- Will find out budget/capabilities for funding more classification with increased funding from increased registration funding.

Referee Report:

- Karin Banfield has been selected as an Evaluator for the Officials, and Bob Lopez was selected as a Technical Delegate at the European B Championships, in Nottwill, Switzerland, October 3-10, 2016
- *****ACTION ITEM*** Discussion on rule changes from AGM – the Board and the Officials will publish/release, jointly, the new rules and interpretations. Will be released to the teams. (Andy and Mike)**
- Referee Clinics – U of A has already hosted clinic, and Chicago will host, during Bear Brawl. Additional clinics can be held, dependent on amount of international player fees.
- *****ACTION ITEM*** Will remind tournament directors to reach out to Referee RACs for attaining referees for tournaments. (Andy will send email with contacts – Will update on website for contacts via Webmaster)**
- Referees will set up a referee discussion FB page, for peer-to-peer discussions. Will be closed forum for referee discussions.

- *****ACTION ITEM*** Gary Pate will be commentator at NBC for Paralympic coverage of Wheelchair Rugby – Mike will post to FB**

President's Report

- Weekly office hours will start, every week, for increased discussion time between board members, with goal of increasing communication between monthly meetings
- Looking to standardize business card format for board members, to improve professional appearance.

Commissioner's Report

- With increased number of teams, (examples – Heartland and Atlantic), looking to create Regionals, prior to Sectionals. Looking for Regional hosts
- Increased number of Sectional hosts have been secured, however, still seeking hosts for Sectionals and Regionals – Contact Commissioner, if interested
- *****ACTION ITEM*** Goals for website – with phases, if we attain certain amount of funding – what would we want as core needs, and expand to all needs – All Board Members, will present at next meeting.**

1st Vice President's Report

- *****ACTION ITEM*** New application process creation for applying for clinics – will present at next meeting**

2nd Vice President's Report

- Creating sponsorship levels for fundraising
- *****ACTION ITEM*** Create final draft of sponsorship levels for board approval by next meeting**
- Discussing with new sponsors about supporting the USQRA

Secretary's Report

- *****ACTION ITEM*** Reminding teams about start of registration – FB and Full Court Press**
- AGM Minutes are still being updated by host, will release upon receipt
- *****ACTION ITEM*** Will release Full Court Press with articles from Emily, Eric and Mike**

Treasurer's Report

- Deferred at this time

ADDENDUM TO MINUTES:

- Additional meeting held, on August 21st, to discuss acquiring funding to send representation to the IWRF 2016 General Assembly and Conference, in Frankfurt, Germany – November 12-15, 2016

- Representation at the IWRF Assembly and Conference, was deemed, by the Board, unanimously, to be necessary, and vital to the interests of the members of the USQRA
- As a result of this need to attend, the Commissioner was designated as the representative of the USQRA.
- The Board, unanimously, elected to designate funding from the General Fund and the Developmental Fund to pay for airfare, registration and hotel.
- Funding was dedicated in this manner: 1/3 of funding will come from the General Fund, and 2/3 of funding will come from the Developmental Fund, with a maximum total value of \$1500. Both funds were deemed sustainable, with this expenditure, especially, with the surplus in the Developmental Fund, this year, due to the Nielsen Grant funding.
- The choice of use of Developmental Funding, for partial funding, was due to the nature of the IWRF meetings, and the improvement/advancement of the sport of Wheelchair Rugby, in the United States, and in the global community.
- The USQRA, will collaborate with representatives of the US Wheelchair Rugby team, as representatives of Wheelchair Rugby from the United States.