

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 7th, 2018

Next Planned Meeting: June 4th, 2018

Present:

Dave Mengyan – Commissioner
Eric Ingram – President
Michael Cottingham – Incoming 1st Vice-President
Daniel Curtis – 2nd Vice-President (Scheduling Conflict)
Michael Klonowski – Secretary
Phyllis Palma – Head of Classification
Andy Miller – Head of Referees
Sid Christain – Incoming Treasurer
Debrah Olsen – Outgoing Treasurer
Beth Curry – Representative Lakeshore Foundation

Absent:

Lani Poblete – USQRA PR Specialist
Kevin Crombie – Outgoing 1st Vice-President

Review:

- Review and acceptance of prior meeting's minutes

Commissioner's Report:

- Had official conversations with referees and with the coach of the Phoenix Heat
- USQRRRA will reply shortly
- USQRRRA filed official Complaint for Code of Conduct violation for behavior after the game
 - Ryan Engelby from Heartland North and Gary Pate from Heartland South have been added to a Code of Conduct Panel with the Commissioner
 - Phoenix Heat have been contacted about the complaint
- Will be working on finding hosts for post-season

President's Report:

- Welcoming Board Members – Mike Cottingham and Sid Christain
- AGM Follow up – Voting via Crowdpurr and teleconference
- Post-season has seen the greatest changes

1st Vice-President's Report:

- Interested in creating a cohesive strategy as to how we grow our league
- Reach out to gaps in nation and areas – help from other teams to equip new teams
- How do we support teams on the fringe – financially or supporting teams develop?

2nd Vice-President's Report:

- Fundraising – eBay Auction has been completed
- Reeve Grant – Can be used for players, support staff, teams
- Neilsen Grant – Can apply for teams – Support on the fringe teams
- Looking at other opportunities – looking at ways of helping teams find funding – now available to put more focus on finding additional funding
- Will put together a more professional 'Ask' materials
- Classifiers – Maybe find ways of funding classification through research grants
- May reach out to Oscar Mike Foundation to talk about fundraising methods
- ***Action Item*** Re-initiate Fundraising Committee

Secretary's Report:

- ***Action Item*** Finding night for board meeting throughout season
- Scores are updates and out
- ***Action Item*** Will be releasing new FCP – two weeks before release – will send email to board, et. al. asking for articles
- Japanese Athlete looking for elite coaching opportunities – Coach Gumbie, Houston Summer League, Scott Hogsett, Shepherd, Andy Cohn – San Diego
- Using team drive – remember to collaborate sponsorships and registration
- Switching over email addresses for new board members
- AGM Minutes have been completed, will be sent to board to check over
- C/B is being updated currently.

Treasurer's Report:

- Wrapping up final payments to postseason hosts
- Handing off to Sid once final matters handled
- Receiving final payments from eBay auction

Classifiers' Report:

- Revision of database to match format of new manual and to allow for improved tracking of athletes' schedule for when to be seen
- Found an IT expert and ex-rugby player to implement needed changes to database
- Need a non-disclosure agreement – will produce for USQRA board to check over
- One date already booked for a Classification Panel for next season-please reach out to Phyllis Palma with any additional requests for panels

Referees' Report:

- Able to certify 8 new officials this past year, filling a lot of spots in Mountain
- Received request from Scott Hogsett to review 4 plays/calls from National Championship game – will send reply to player, shortly.
- 1 Candidate tested up to A Level at Nationals – Todd Jackson

Lakeshore Representative Report – Beth Curry:

- Mandy Goff was at AGM, giving report

- We have an 11 day residential camp that begins on Wednesday, May 9th
- Did get funding to support developmental work over the next year
- Want to collect data for diversity study with USQRA – coordinate with registration
 - Mike Cottingham wants to support data gathering, improve participation in surveys – may use calling volunteers if necessary
- World Games – will include WC rugby – in Birmingham in 2021 – for adaptive sports – will be a WC Rugby Variant (Cannot be a sport that is included in Olympics/Paralympics)