



UNITED STATES CURLING ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
October 21, 2022
Vikings Campus, Innovation Center, Eagan,
Minnesota

Approved November 14, 2022

1. **Call to Order** - Chair Lynn LaRocca calls the meeting to order at 3:03 pm CT, October 21, 2022.
2. **Roll call**
Board Members
Present – Jeff Annis, Terri Gleason, Darryl Horsman, Courtney Schmidt, Roger Smith, Alex Agre, John Benton, Tracy Lawless, Shane Coppola, Lynn LaRocca (Chair), Hawley MacLean.
Absent – Steven Birkliid, Colin Hufman, Patrick McDonald.
Quorum - 11 being present in total and eight being required, we have a quorum.
Non-Board
Committee Members – Steve Emt, Aileen Geving, Russ Lemcke, Rich Lepping, Allison Pottinger, Jennifer Stannard.
Staff/Non-Board Executives – Jenna Burchesky, Dean Gemmell, Eric Gleason (CFO), Gordon Maclean (Secretary, recording), Jeff Plush (CEO), Jessica Schultz, Gabby Tachis.
Guests – Bret Jackson, Dave Patterson (USOPC), Michael Shalhoub, Rich Ruohonen.
3. **Appointment of Parliamentarian** – The Chair appoints Gordon Maclean as Parliamentarian.
4. **Additions/changes to the agenda** – None
5. **Discussion/approval of Meeting Minutes** –
 - a. Minutes from the July 26, 2022, August 16, 2022, and September 21, 2022 meetings were reviewed. Motion to approve those minutes by Gleason, seconded by Benton. Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.
6. **Chair Report**
 - a. Expresses thanks to everyone in the room and online for their hard work during the past several months.
 - b. Notes that there have been a lot of great things happening in USA Curling but acknowledges that there have been a lot of challenges. Commends those who came forward as part of the Yates report. As the National Governing Body of Curling in the US we take the wellbeing of our athletes as a top priority.
7. **CEO Report** –
 - a. Indicates that he will provide full comments at the upcoming Members Assembly. Expresses appreciation to the board staff and athletes. Great dialogue continuing around a variety of aspects of the organization including media/commercial opportunities. We are very excited about our future and proud of what we have done.
8. **Officer Reports**
 - a. Audit/Finance
 - i. CFO Gleason reports that first quarter FY23 Results and Variance Analysis are on file.

- ii. FY23 Budget versus Actual so far, we are running positive for the year. USOPC Grant funding will start coming in as will National Team and Paralympic Team travel expenses. The Foundation is still in the early stages, but funds are starting to come in. Central office is breaking even.
- iii. Summer months are always tough from a cash flow perspective, but we are managing expenses with diligent cost controls in place. Digital Content Coordinator has been hired to help with website development. Event registration is being integrated into the Sport80 platform.
- iv. As long as we maintain expenses, we should be fine. Our sponsors are committed to what we are doing, and incoming conversations are positive.

9. Athletes Advisory Council

- a. Agre indicates that the AAC recently issued a statement that they are part of the conversation and participating in all the meetings. The AAC is looking to schedule more regular meetings in the future, and more consistent information and process, review, and procedure flows.

10. USWCA

- a. Lawless indicated that the USWCA has shut down their Facebook group because of negative social media. Looking forward to reopening in the near future. Scot's tour has arrived currently touring the country. Senior Women's Friendship Tour arriving soon. There will be some overlap between the two groups. We have a lot of guests in the country.

11. World Curling Federation

- a. Stannard reports that former USA Curling Director Beau Welling is now President of the WCF.
- b. The 8 vs 10 ends issue remains undecided but will be addressed by June 2023.
- c. The Pan-Continental Championship will be in Calgary. This event is the pipeline for World Championship qualification. China will not attend the Pan-Continental.
- d. WCF has contracted with Recast streaming services for the next three years.
- e. Tyler George has been nominated to the Athlete's Commission.

12. Nominating/Governance

- a. Lemcke reviews the Nominating/Governance committee members. Director seat nominees are Jeff Annis (Minnesota) and Bret Jackson (GLCA/Midwest).
- b. Unfortunately, Sonia Montero will not be coming onto the committee as planned.
- c. Deb Horn will be the new chair. Lemcke will be terming out.
- d. The Board expresses support for Sonia and hope that she may reconsider at some future time.

13. Recognition of departing board and committee members

- a. Board members express thanks for Russ Lemcke's work over the years and those he brought onto the board.
- b. Board members express thanks for Courtney Schmidt's work over the years both as a Director and Chair.

14. Key Items of Agreement - balanced budget, thanks Russ and Courtney.

15. Old Business – None

16. New Business –

- a. Recognition committee reports that the following have been selected as Volunteers of the Year Ken Wallis (2021, San Francisco Bay Area CC) and Leigh Palmer (2022, Kansas City CC.)
- b. AAC requests that we set up a Task Force to review our Safesport policies and suggests a review of the Safesport process for the board. Eric Gleason indicates that there is a link to Safesport reports on our website.
- c. Terri Gleason suggests a grass-roots task force, to report to the board concerns of and provide a communication channel and a process to bring in more volunteers from clubs.

17. **Next Board Meeting** – October 22, 2022, 8:00 am CT in Minneapolis.
18. **Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by Agre seconded by Gleason. Meeting adjourns at 4:03pm CT