



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2023 - 8pm ET
via Teleconference

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Bret Jackson at 8:07 pm ET
2. **Roll Call**
 - a. **Board** – Bret Jackson (chair), Colin Hufman (assistant chair), Alex Agre, Jeff Annis, Aileen Geving, Terri Gleason, Darryl Horseman, Tracy Lawless, Roger Smith, Luc Violette, Paul Wilson. **Absent** – Patrick McDonald
 - b. **Committee Members** – Dave Carlson, Michael Shalhoub, Oyuna Batoyun, Thomas Godar
 - c. **Staff** – Dean Gemmell (CEO), Craig Parry (COO), Dick Dawson (recording Secretary), Alexis Boccanfuso (Treasurer)

With 11 of 13 Board members present, the Secretary declared a quorum.

3. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Approval of Board meeting minutes
 - i. July 29 - [Link to DRAFT Minutes](#)
 - ii. August 14 - [Link to DRAFT Minutes](#)

J Annis motioned to approve the Consent Agenda items, seconded by R Smith. A voice vote was taken, and the agenda was approved without dissent or abstention.

4. **Membership Model By-Laws and Policy & Procedures Review** – Mike Shalhoub, Dean Gemmell, Dick Dawson

- a. Overview of Member Clubs vs Regional Associations and voting procedures in the future
 - i. Discussion on types of membership under amended bylaws— Individual and Member Club
 - ii. Discussion on terms and nomenclature regarding Member and Regional Associations
 - iii. Extended discussion about the creation of a class of membership for Regional Associations—Affiliate, Associate, etc.—and why the amended bylaw create Recognized Regional Associations instead of creating introducing an additional class of membership
- b. Agreed that membership classes going forward will be: Individual Curlers and Member Clubs
- c. Voting will be by Member Clubs according to the number of USA Curling Individual Members who note a Primary Club, or by Individual USA Curling members who inform the Secretary that they wish to separate their vote from the Member Club
- d. Discussion about reinstatement of Member Clubs
 - i. Discussion about a reinstatement fee—one-time or otherwise
 - ii. Should any reinstatement fees apply if clubs leave USA Curling and want to return and be a USA Curling Member Club?
- e. Expanded discussion about reinstatement of Member Clubs
 - i. Clubs that have left and would face stiff fees to return will not rejoin USA Curling again—Gemmell
 - ii. Our culture is now to earn memberships—Jackson
 - iii. Let's ask Member Clubs or Individuals why they left in the first place instead of focusing on reinstatement fees—Annis
 - iv. Gemmell agrees—notes that outreach to clubs that are not members has been ongoing and club outreach conversations will continue to be an essential part of operations going forward
 - v. Shalhoub—reinstatement fees are a Board policy decision
 - vi. Decision reached that amended bylaws would not have reinstatement fees for Member Clubs
 - vii. Jackson—we should be confident about the products and services we're offering and earn both Member Clubs and Individual Members each year
- f. Discussion of Nomination of Directors by Nominating & Governance Committee—amended bylaws require that nominations from Recognized Regional Associations be sent 60 days in advance of Members' Meeting

- g. Discussion about moving the traditional date—October—of the Members' Meeting / Assembly earlier, allowing athletes to attend and avoid conflicting with time of year when many Member Clubs are installing ice, building new membership, etc.

D Horseman moved to support the draft of amended By-Laws as discussed and presented at this meeting, and that it be presented at the Members Assembly. Seconded by A Agre. Motion carried without opposition or abstention by voice vote.

5. Members Assembly planning and discussion

- a. Agenda, timing, programming
 - i. Friday, 13 October. **Members' Meeting**, 7pm CT at Hyatt Regency in Bloomington, MN,
 - ii. Saturday, 14 October, **Members Assembly**—Sessions tentatively planned to run from 10AM to 4PM at Hyatt Regency. Programming and planning being managed by USA Curling Staff—Lauren Rich, Craig Perry, Dean Gemmell
 - iii. Discussion about a USA Curling event in the evening on 14 October at the Saint Paul Curling Club during Saint Paul Cash Spiel—agreement about value and will be pursued
 - iv. Sunday, 15 October, 9-12 PM. Board Meeting. USA Curling offices in Eagan, MN.

6. Other Agenda Business – Jackson

- a. **Director Nominations** – Previously discussed

Roger Smith motions to amend the draft bylaws. Change wording on nominations sent to Nominating & Governance Committee for Board Directors to “up to two.” Roger Smith motions. Terry Gleason seconds. Voice vote carries the motion unanimously.

- b. **Conflict of Interest Forms**—Jackson notes that all Board and staff need to ensure they have completed these and are in compliance
- c. **GNCC Outreach**—If amended bylaws are ratified at Members' Assembly, Board of Directors will immediately send written communication to GNCC Leadership inviting that organization to return as a Recognized Regional Association—Jackson

- d. Agreement on sending that outreach, Gemmell notes that communication with GNCC has already been done informally, Bob Hogan on call with Chair and CEO that included other regional leaders

T Gleason motions to amend the draft By-Laws to allow for Members' Assembly voting to be done also at a Special Members' Assembly called by the Chair. T Lawless seconds. Voice vote carries the motion unanimously.

7. CEO Report

- a. Hopeful that Milwaukee CC will host Senior M/W Nationals. Backup plan also in the works if they decline. Seniors last 2024 championship requiring a host site. Chaska Curling Center is going to host Five-and-Under Nationals.
- b. Work with grant providers—Chicago Community Trust, USOPC—underway
- c. WCF/World Academy of Sport sessions at Rock Creek Curling completed—certified six USA Curling ice technicians and five USA Curling officials to conduct training sessions that certify according to WCF standards

8. Adjourn

B Jackson motions to adjourn at 10:18pm ET. Seconded by T Lawless. Motion passes without opposition in voice vote.