



Member, United States
Olympic & Paralympic Committee

USA Team Handball board meeting

Minutes of the 15-Jun-2024 extraordinary meeting teleconference

Board members in attendance

- Marianne Acker
- Jennifer Fithian
- Camille Nichols
- Patrick Jalabert – acting as secretary
- Mark Ortega
- Lawrence Taylor

Board members excused

N/A

USATH Staff in attendance

- Martin Branick – CEO

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 12.40 pm MT by Patrick Jalabert, secretary. Mr. Jalabert thanked board members for joining, and reminded them that several topics would be discussed, in light of recent changes in board leadership.

- Mr. Jalabert shared a 30/60/90-day priorities proposal to build some consensus within the remaining board members.
- The board discussed the current strategic plan, and the fact that the unrealistic goals did not allow for an operating plan and correct execution. There was some extended conversation around reasonable goals, including emphasis on growth and not simply fielding national teams.
- Mr. Taylor provided his background and interest in the sport, including a will to kick off grassroots efforts and invest in the organization's future.

Motion

A motion was made to appoint Mr. Jalabert as interim president and chair of the board, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

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- The board agreed that, moving forward, someone other than Mr. Jalabert should take meeting minutes, and agreed to revisit this during the next board meeting.
 - The board discussed communication relative to leadership changes, and agreed to announce resignations in one press release, and Mr. Taylor's appointment in a subsequent release.

Action item

Mr. Branick was tasked with preparing both press releases for review and publication.

- The board aligned on a biweekly meeting cadence until the discussed 30/60/90-day priorities had been addressed and closed.
- The board discussed the Nominating and Governance Committee (NGC) staffing. The Athlete Advisory Committee (AAC) was expected to finalize nominees within the coming days. Mr. Jalabert committed to reaching out to the USOPC for independent member recommendations and access to the NGC registry.
- The board discussed the potential partnership with the US Handball Union. Mr. Jalabert was scheduled to meet with Mr. King in the upcoming week, and would provide the board with an update in the following days.
- Ms. Nichols raised concerns about a disparaging video that had been published by members of the US Handball Union, and emphasized the need for the AAC, of which Mr. King was a member, to review conflict of interest risks.
- Mr. Branick raised the need to retain legal counsel for contract reviews and other such matters, until such a time as a board member with legal expertise was nominated.

Action item

Mr. Branick was tasked with reviewing the USOPC's available resources for smaller National Governing Bodies for short term options for legal counsel.

- Mr. Branick reminded the board of his upcoming paternity leave.

Motion

A motion to adjourn was made at 1.30 pm MT, and was duly seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Patrick Jalabert served as Secretary.