

2010 Summer Board Meetings

Gregory Gymnasium, University of Texas Campus, Austin, TX

Monday, June 21, 2010

Meeting was called to order by Mike Steele at 8:10 am. Present were Steele, Vice President LeaAnn Martin, Secretary Joe Hagen, and board members Stan Dunlavy, Steve Dykes, Steve Grow, Jarrad Krueger, John Nottingham, Tom Sove, Mike Tanner, and staff Vern Roberts and Gary Cruz. Treasurer Mike Driscoll arrived at 9:00 am. Howie Eisenberg, Victor LoPierre, Chris Tico, and Carl Porter were not present. Voting proxies were designated as follows:

- Martin shall exercise proxy for Porter
- Tanner shall exercise proxy for LoPierre
- Dunlavy shall exercise proxy for Eisenberg (determined and announced approximately halfway through the meeting)
- Hagen shall exercise proxy for Tico

These proxy decisions were made and assigned by the absent board members, and, aside from the one exception noted above, were announced at the beginning of the meeting.

Old Business:

The minutes from the January 2010 meeting were reviewed.

Tanner/Dunlavy moved to accept the motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously (13-0) (Eisenberg and Driscoll not present).

Executive Committee/Board Decisions since last meeting:

1. Two qualifiers were approved: Pittsburgh and Fountain Valley. Pittsburgh event was not held.
2. Employee Profit Sharing restated, as required by IRS.
3. Added to the One-Wall Committee were Cesar Sala, Paul Angel, Danielle Daskalakis and Billy O'Donnell.
4. Work with WPH on one collegiate event without resolving conflicting event issues

President's General Report

Steele asked for committees to meet once per month.

Semper Fi and college event reports were given.

The on-going discussions the WPH were addressed. The Board-appointed team reported progress in moving toward a potential agreement to hold a single collegiate national tournament. Steele suggested the need to move forward to promote the game.

Dunleavy suggested that we keep working with the WPH but stressed the need to keep the membership informed.

Grow/Sove moved that the USHA will make an offer to the WPH to take over the Pro Tour and to make that public. Sove said that making it formal would clear the air. This vote was deferred to amendments better defining pro tour. The USHA "team" will move forward to make a proposal for the WPH to take over the Pro Tour which will come back to the BOD for a vote. Martin noted the need to have it in writing. Amended motion passed 13-0. (Eisenberg was not present and had not yet appointed a proxy, and Driscoll was not present).

Steele asked for the names of any other candidates interested in running for either of the two at large Board of Directors positions, which were to be voted on later in the meeting.

2010 Treasurer's Report (Mike Driscoll)

Driscoll reported the following:

- The USHA was \$30,000 below budget in May. Glove supply was part of the problem.
- The USHA is in need of having more than one glove manufacturer.
- Apparel and ball sales are also down until recently.
- Membership is close to on budget.
- Magazine costs are down.
- Master doubles expenses were up as was income based upon how the finances were handled.
- Pro Tour budget is close to where it is supposed to be.

**Under New Business:
Planning**

Dunlavy/Nottingham moved to accept Dunlavy's revised language for bylaw #17. Motion passed unanimously (14-0).

17. At the winter Board meeting prior to the expiration of the term of each regionally-elected Director, the President shall appoint a Director representing a neighboring region to identify and submit a slate of not less than two (2) nor more than five (5) qualified candidates to fill the expiring regional position, including the incumbent regional Director if he or she desires to be considered for re-election. The process shall include an advance notice and solicitation of candidates for the upcoming regional election [by the standard means of business communication e.g. magazine articles, website postings, internet postings, mailings]. If, after all due diligence, only a single candidate has agreed to stand for election, the full Board may vote, by at least a 2/3 majority, to make a temporary exception to the two-candidate minimum and permit the ballot to list a single candidate's name with space designated for a write-in candidate. The final ballot, listing the candidates and including space for a write-in candidate, shall be mailed by the USHA office to each member of the association in the region. The ballots shall be returned to a third party contracted to count them and the person polling the most votes in the region will then be elected to the Board of Directors, and his or her term of office shall begin at the first full Board meeting of the ensuing year.

Dunlavy/Sove moved to accept Dunlavy's language for No. 19. Motion passed unanimously (14-0).

19. At the winter Board meeting prior to the expiration of the terms of two Directors selected at-large the President shall appoint a nominating committee or three (3) returning at-large members of the Board of Directors to recommend two or more candidates for the expiring positions, including any incumbent at-large Directors who desire to be considered for re-election. Then, at the annual National Four-Wall Tournament meeting, the Board of Directors shall elect two nominees to the Board of Directors, their terms to begin at the first full Board meeting of the ensuing year.

Dunlavy/Martin moved that proxy votes in section 31 should be amended to indicate that proxy should be given only to another board member. Language shall read as follows:

"Directors shall be entitled to vote in person or by proxy appointed by an instrument in writing subscribed by such Directors, and filed with the Secretary of this corporation, and shall, by the terms thereof, be effective for use at the time of the meeting at which it is presented. The proxy must be assigned to a current board member."

This vote passed unanimously (14-0. Eisenberg had not yet assigned a proxy vote at this time).

Marketing report:

- Reorganization: as recommended by Harry Beckwith, a governance group was assigned to work on a reorganization plan. Currently USHA Board of Directors is too small doing too much. Spinoffs/partnerships, departments are needed, along with specific entities working on specific issues.

- College events/testing outdoor events: Cruz was assigned to work on collegiate open houses. Board determined that Roberts would attend the Las Vegas handball/racquetball event.
- Website: although improvements have been made, USHA site is still difficult to navigate for a new or potential new player.
- Logo update: The idea that the USHA logo is outdated was discussed. Krueger was assigned to investigate a new logo.
- Updated road show/instructional videos: this discussion also led to talks of YouTube channel(s). Hagen was assigned to research this.
- Fundraising event such as golf so that USHA can seek donors other than standard handball donors.
- Return to road shows: Hagen suggested he may be available in the upcoming months due to travel. Martin noted that this would be a good opportunity to explain the status of the relationship between the USHA and the WPH. Clinics would be a good addition. Roberts noted that the White Paper should stay current as well.

Game Committee Report – Sove

Sove reported on two potential rules changes that were discussed in the committee.

At – Large Elections:

Elections were held for the positions currently held by Porter and Grow. Campaign statements were in the packet. Three candidates were running for these two positions: Bob Kass, Carl Porter and Rob Pearse. The winners were Kass and Porter.

One-Wall Committee updates (Eisenberg)-presented by Roberts.

1. Criteria for one-wall ranking tournaments: inclusion of non sanctioned events was addressed. There was a discussion as how the ball may be interpreted. It was also suggested that a list of one wall events be submitted to the one-wall committee. Staff and Promotions Committee to confer with one-wall committee on limitations of how many and which events. Clarification to include ball issues.
2. Appeal limits. The committee is asking that if an appeal is won that appeal does not count toward appeal limit. The Game committee was assigned to review
3. World Handball Committee. USHA is trying to ascertain the cost joining CIJB. USHA would join any organization that promotes handball, pending cost.
4. Funding the travel of commissioner to one-wall committee meeting in NYC.

Motion by Dunlavy/Krueger to approve the motions with the exceptions that:

- A list of 3-5 events be submitted.
- Game committee will review whether that appeals won would count towards appeal totals.
- The USHA join the CIJB depending on cost.
- No approval for recommendations for board to send to the World Handball Council.

The motion passed 14-1.

Personnel report by Dunlavy.

Dunlavy discussed the board self evaluation tool and will look at revising. He also noted that the USHA succession plan will be reviewed in the near future. Staff evaluation is working fine, but board evaluation needs questions reviewed.

Collegiate Report: Steele updated the discussions with the WPH on holding one collegiate event in 2011. Porter feels that we are ready for phase three (funding).

Hagen suggested a face to face during this week and that Banfield and Khalsa join discussions. Steele agreed to attempt this discussion.

Important points considered potential dealbreakers were reviewed.

Matt Krueger – Development Update

2010 USHA Grants, VIP reception will be at the alumni center on Wednesday. 7-9 pm. The event will include a presentation.

Krueger updated the mid-year reports received.

Promotions Committee - Hagen

Hagen read the list of recent events in 2010.

He then read through the list of upcoming events.

The need for a 2011 national four-wall site was discussed. Some ideas were suggested, and several board members pledged to investigate further.

Services/ Revenue (Grow)

Grow reviewed discussion of the new gloves. He reported that a second manufacturer is still being sought just to avoid having all gloves coming from one source. Ball sales were down but recent sales indicate budget will be met.

New deals are being investigated to encourage distributors to increase sales.

Grow said another membership drive was needed. In past years staff has come up with program.

Nationals Report (Roberts)

Roberts reviewed the nationals and the program, Silent Auction for First Ace and for UT Foundation were reviewed. Regional ad sales for the program were down, as were pro seat sales. The pro matches will be filmed and uploaded via Vimeo for free viewing. Links will be available on the USHA website.

Some awards will be presented at the banquet: Volunteer of the Year, Organization of the Year and Coach of the Year nominations were solicited. We have two nominations for volunteers, one for organization and none for coach of the year.

Sove/Krueger moved to accept Josh Reese as Volunteer of the Year, and the World's Organizing Committee as Organization of the Year. The motion passed 14-0.

Hagen noted the Nationals bracket contest ("June Jubilation") and the Facebook updates.

Investment Committee update: Dykes said that Leidich reports a 2% growth. Roberts noted there was still a bequest made to the USHA that needed to be invested and suggested the Investment Committee provide direction to the appropriate investment vehicle.

Emberg Budget Considerations

Letter from Ron Emberg was presented to each Board member.

Regional positions for Sept. / Oct. elections: Tanner will serve as nominating chair for Southwest, Dykes for Northeast, and Dunlavy for Southern California.

Committee additions/changes:

Beth Rowley to Game.

Dykes off game and personnel.

Krueger to chair Service/Revenue, since Grow is off Board.

Roberts to poll Board members not in attendance.

Winter meeting scheduled for Jan. 21-23, 2011.

