



## **USASF Board of Directors Meeting April 8, 2015**

### **PRESENT:**

Brian Elza, Dan Kessler, Debbie Love, Happy Hooper, Jeff Fowlkes, Jim Chadwick, John Newby, John Nichols, Kathy Penree, Kristen Rosario, Mike Burgess, Morton Bergue, Roger Schonder, Shawn Smith, Steve Peterson, Tara Harris

### **ABSENT:**

Joelle Antico, Justin Carrier

### **GUESTS:**

Amy Clark, Les Stella, Lynn Singer

### **AGENDA:**

#### **Opening**

Jim opened the meeting and updated the Board that there have been 4200 cheer legalities submissions this season.

#### **Dance Update**

Summary update of dance progress this season:

- Education and Curriculum: Mary Wendt and Michelle Allison are finalizing classes and presenters for Regional Meetings that will include a launch of foundations of Dance Coach Credentialing.
- Safety: Meredith Walker is managing safety judges and the process for legalities questions and tracking.
- Adjudication: Cheryl Paquette is overseeing the training and implementation process for judges and scoring at The Dance Worlds. We're introducing a non-scoring Verbal Critique judge this year.
- Outreach: Anastasia is talking to studio event producers and studio owners about USASF and Worlds opportunities.

#### **The Cheerleading and Dance Worlds**

Final plans for Worlds:

- Block schedule will be posted by end of day today, April 8.
- The cheer performance order drawing will be posted online tomorrow, April 9.
- Worlds registration area is at Celebrity Hall, which has undergone a facelift to include a bigger registration area and offices.
- The VIP Gala & Awards Ceremony is Friday, April 24. Buses to transport attendees will depart from resorts at 5:30 p.m. The Gala starts at 6:00 p.m. with a magician. Awards begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m. A reception follows until 9:30 p.m. with a private patio between Great Britain and Paris to see Illumination and enjoy desserts and a bar.



- Worlds competition will be held Saturday through Monday. Dance will be at Epcot's World Showplace Pavillion and Cheer at Wide World of Sports. A new venue at WWS (North and South Arenas) will be utilized on Saturday and Sunday.
- A Celebration party for coaches, spectators and athletes is scheduled for Monday night.
- A VIP party for event producers, judges and partners is also scheduled for Monday night.

### **VIP Gala & Awards**

We reviewed the awards and the awards process with the Cheer National Advisory Board meeting and asked for input. Everyone was in favor of the current process and made a couple of suggestions for adjusting the awards for 2016:

- Add event producers to be eligible for Chairman's Cup Award.
- Award Coach of the Year and Program Owner of the Year for both cheer and dance and discontinue Cheer Small Program of the Year and Dance Program of the Year.

### **Regional Meetings**

- Nearly 600 coaches and owners took advantage of the "Spring Into Action" early registration incentive for Regional Meetings.
- Vendor Hall will be open on Friday only at each meeting.
- Meetings are being planned as a hybrid between business classes and coach education. There will be dedicated time with Regional Directors to discuss membership issues and opportunities for interaction and collecting feedback from members. All education and credentialing sessions are considered "baseline."
- Cheer safety judge training will be held on Sundays, Dance on Saturdays.

### **Image & Appearance Guidelines**

The uniform guideline established in the 2012 Image & Appearance Guidelines begins in the 2015-16 season. The Rules Committee will discuss the process for event producers and recommend that the safety judge at each event be responsible for a point deduction equal to an "out of level skill" should a Jr. Team wear crop tops in competition.

### **Rules version 2.0**

There have been two conference calls with a group of coaches and owners about the potential revision of the cheer age grid and rules.

Being discussed and considered:

- Division Sizes, ages and number of males.
- Rules per age level and setting a progression through the levels.

Meeting Adjourned

**Next Meeting:** June 24, 2015