



USASF Board of Directors Meeting June 24, 2015

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Steve Peterson

GUESTS:

Ali Stangle, Amy Clark, Lynn Singer

AGENDA:

Worlds Update

A survey will be going out to Worlds coaches that will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and the Cheer and Dance Worlds Advisory Boards.

Regional Meeting status and summary

- There is an owners only track and additional opportunities for sponsors to speak to program owners
- There are more NACCC sessions this year, and four sessions for members to give input
- There is a new structure to Friday morning. We're conducting a Round Robin where members rotate through four required sessions; a meeting with their Regional Director, Risk Management, the Vendor Hall, Principles of Coaching (for cheer), and Dance Opportunities (for dance).
- Vendor time is streamlined and efficient so they have targeted opportunity to speak with members and owners. They arrive on Thursday, vendor hall activities are on Friday during the day, cocktail party Friday night and then they depart.
- Attendance was up in Chicago over 2014 for both cheer and dance. More than 700 people took advantage of the early registration opportunity in April.

A suggestion was made for NACCC representatives to be more involved in recruiting to the meetings.

Rules "Simplification" status

A small group met at the NACCC Coaches Retreat in May and discussed that XS, S and M Division sizes could be for Sanctioned Events, and L could be at Worlds only. Concepts were pretty well received at the first Regional Meeting in Chicago and it's helpful to get input at all of the meetings.

Concern was raised about some of the ages and discussion about the possibility of rolling out the changes over a two to three year process. Others felt it would be best to "rip off the band aid" and make all changes in the same year for a smoother transition long term.

Concern was also raised about progressions across rules and age divisions and the ability of the Safety and Panel judges to be fully knowledgeable about and keep track of what is legal and appropriate at each level.

A recommendation was made to add Safety Judges to the committee that has been discussing the potential changes.



Safety Plan Update

First, there will be broader team involvement as three people will be managing all aspects of cheer rules and safety going forward. Jessica Legette, the new Safety Judge Training Administrator, is conducting safety judge training at all Regional Meetings. Information inviting applications for the third team member, the Event Safety Administrator, is posted on the USASF website.

An important goal for the rules and safety team is better, faster and increased communication. The priority is to set up a system to notify members when things are updated.

New:

- Safety judges will now take the safety certification test a week following convention week, after rules clarifications are made. They will have three weeks to complete.
- Following the test, the candidates will receive an email explaining what they missed that provides the correct answer(s). Test scores and the time it took to take the test will be given to event producers.
- We have disbanded the Universal Score Sheet committee, and Ali will continue to stay on calls with JAM Brands, Varsity and Epic Brands as score sheets are discussed during the year so the USASF is informed regarding status and progress of the scoring system being used by multiple brands. This will also help the Worlds scoring committee.

Dance Update

Dance Coach Credentialing launched at the Midwest Regional Meeting and was really well received.

Credentialing starts with foundations of coaching, including how to structure classes, teaching progressions in jazz, pom and hip hop and developing and protecting the individual dancer, the team and the program. All of the foundations classes are required, and then coaches can choose to have an emphasis in Jazz, Pom and/or Hip Hop or any combination of the three.

There were almost 60 attendees at the Midwest Regional Meeting. About half crossed over between cheer and dance; and the other half were dance only participants. 25 registered for credentialing, and 17 have completed and passed the testing to date.

Safety Judge Certification

11 people went through Safety Judge Certification at the Midwest Regional Meeting.

Communications Update

We are exploring the potential of creating a blog or way of communicating with parents that focuses on Sanctioned Events, Professional Membership and topics that will help parents understand All Star and the USASF. We're also exploring ways of creating community and effective channels of communications for members.

Other

Mike Burges provided the update that there were corrections on age grid for cheer, including the maximum number of 32 on a prep cheer team.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: Friday, August 14, following Convention Week in Las Vegas, NV.