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## **USASF Board of Directors Meeting October 6, 2015**

### **PRESENT:**

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

### **ABSENT:**

Jeff Fowlkes, Mike Burgess

### **GUESTS:**

Ali Stangle, Amy Clark, Karen Wilson, Lynn Singer

### **AGENDA:**

#### **Coach Professional Membership Requirement Update**

The plan for implementation for the new policy that requires green light background check status to gain access to the warm up rooms at Sanctioned Events this season was reviewed. Event producers would have latitude to implement this process either by Coach ID cards or wrist bands based on what works best for their event model but all event producers must have consistent approach to enforcement. Event Producers and Regional Directors will work together prior to events to make programs aware of the requirements and to assist them with compliance.

A task force of USASF staff and event producers will meet by conference call weekly to discuss successes and challenges from the week prior and to further develop recommendations for implementation. The USASF will create resources for event producers to communicate the requirement to programs as they register, and if they arrive at an event without having background checks completed. Regional Directors are emailing and holding conference calls and webinars to continue to educate members.

#### **USASF Staff at Bid Events to confirm athlete eligibility**

As a test for broad implementation, USASF staff will be at some bid giving events this year to verify athletes using a process similar to what was utilized at Worlds in April. A plan and proposal will be put together next season based on the tests and research.

#### **Education Plan Update**

Jim reviewed that education was the number one request of members coming through the Regional Advisory Boards and Committees this year. A plan for education will be presented as part of the overall budget plan at the November Board Meeting and the input of all Board members is requested in developing this important plan.

#### **National All Star Cheer & Dance Day**

NASCDD is a growth initiative that came out of last year's Mentoring Leaders Program. The group of leaders put together a complete plan for implementation and templates for programs to use to plan and host an event at their location. Custom music was created for the day, an official routine was choreographed to be taught to program attendees, and a flyer template was designed for programs to drop their logo and information to customize.



The best way to track activity surrounding NASCDD was to measure engagement on social media and activity on our website. As a summary:

**ON 9/12**

Reach: 445,000  
Impressions: 1M

**FROM 9/1 – 10/5**

Reach: 612,000  
Impressions: 2.7M

**USASF.net**

Page and Video views: 8500

**Young Athlete Scholarship Program approval**

The scholarship provides funds to athletes to help offset costs of participating in All Star. The process would be similar to and follow the timeline of the current College Scholarship process, and funds will be sent to programs in the athletes' names to be credited to athlete accounts. There are currently two Affiliate Members that have committed \$12,000 to this fund. There were no objections and the program was approved.

**Mentoring Leaders Initiatives approval**

There are three programs currently coming through the Mentoring Leaders program:

- **Parent Education:** To connect athletes and their parents with the USASF, as well as provide the educational resources to keep their athletes safe and successful.
- **BOLT:** (Bettering Our Leaders of Tomorrow) An annual leadership program that will develop and engage the young leaders from within All Star to become strong role models and great citizens.
- **Athlete Connection:** Athlete connection provides all USASF Athlete members with knowledge, resources, opportunities and a community to further evolve and impact All Star.

The Board approved these initiatives with no objections.

**Recommendations for Sanctioning Standards and Eligibility Violations Plan**

These recommendations are not official USASF Minimum Sanctioning Standards, but will be made available to event producers as recommendations along with the Sanctioning Guidelines.

**USASF Recommended Standards for Judges & Scoring at Sanctioned Cheer Events**

(Proposed by NACCC, Gym Owners and Event Producers)

- Required judges meeting/orientation/training prior to start of competition
- Have a separate safety and deduction judge per panel (it should not be the same person)
- When possible, there should be a separate difficulty and technique judge per category
- 5 minute minimum (6 min recommended) to watch and score routines
- Video playback capability
- Any score changes must be communicated to the judge
- Follow the 'USASF Routine Interruption Due To Injury' protocol for all sanctioned events. Currently, this is a recommendation to all event producers. The protocol is to protect everyone's interest, with the focus on the injured athlete during an event. It is posted here, <http://usasfrules.com/routine-interruption/>.
- Scheduled meal and restroom breaks for judges
- Access to water and/or refreshments while judging



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### **Roster Violations Process**

As a follow up to our discussion at the Cheer WAB meeting, we have decided to place the following statement in The Cheerleading and Dance Worlds Registration and Bid packets.

#### ***Roster Violations at Bid-Qualifying Events***

*Any team or program found to be in violation of rostering guidelines at bid-qualifying events and/or The Cheerleading and Dance Worlds is subject to disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to: disqualification, fines, denied participation in future events and/or membership revocation.*

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Next Meeting: November 17-18, 2015**